

The Rashi Database Project

GOALS: * Show that all Rashid comments are spontaneous, instant, effortless reactions of a native speaker to the biblical text.

*This is accomplished by skillful English translations instantly suggesting the Rashid comment to the reader

* Additionally, each Rashid comment is examined using the 10 organs of the Rashid anatomy.

PUBLICATION: www.Rashibyomi.com/RashiDatabase.htm

(MAIN BIBLIOGRAPHY): DT = Doctoral Thesis (www.Rashiyomi.com/Rashibook.htm,

MG=Modern Grammar with Applications to Rashid (www.Rashiyom.com/Rashibook2.htm))

OTHER COMMENTATORS (ABBREVIATIONS): R=Ramban, T=Baal Turim, K=Kli Yakar, I=Ibn Ezra, H=Hendel

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RASHI ID: Lv21-02a, Lv21-17a, Lv21-18b.c, Lv21-21c, Lv21-20a.b.c

PESHAT, SPONTANEOUS, REACTION TO SKILLFUL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

RASHI vs. MIDRASH: We will continue with the *routine* Rashid comments begun recently. Although there are already encyclopedic works documenting Rashi's rich approach to dictionary meaning such as Avineri's *Rashi's Palace*, my emphasis will be on the half dozen principles and figures of speech used to explain meaning. Additionally, as done in my doctoral thesis, I will emphasize that *peshat* the straightforward meaning of the text coincides with what reading literacy examinations test.

The techniques covered in this *routine Rashid* series are: *Metonymy, hypernymy, synecdoche, meronymy, root meaning, grammar, parallelism, the paragraph, and reading literacy*. By repeatedly emphasizing these principles and reinforcing them with English examples it is hoped that the reader will acquire a natural skill for these approaches thereby leading to greater Rashid appreciation.

VERSE: Lv21-02a
TRANSLATION: *Except [priests may become ritually impure] to his wife [lit. leftover]*
METHOD: Synecdoche
BRIEF EXPLANATION: The word honey can refer to sweet because honey is a good example of sweetness. The technique of naming something by a good example is called synecdoche. There are a variety of Biblical Hebrew phrases using the word leftover; these are similar to the English idiom, my other half, referring to a wife. A person's leftover flesh refers to his relatives; a father's leftover refers to the father's wife; his leftover refers to his wife.

VERSE: Lv21-17a
TRANSLATION: *A blemished priest may not come near to the altar to offer the offerings [lit. the bread of his God]*

METHOD: Synecdoche

BRIEF EXPLANATION: The word honey can refer to sweet because honey is a good example of sweetness. The word bread can refer to meals because bread is a good representative of the meal or a frequent part of the meal. This is true in English and Hebrew. Naming items by good examples is called synecdoche

VERSE: Lv21-18b,c
TRANSLATION: *Blemished priests may not officiate at services [For example a blind or limping person, a netted person or a stretched person*

METHOD: Synecdoche - Form
BRIEF EXPLANATION: The technique of naming things by good examples of them is called synecdoche: For example, honey comes to mean sweet and bread comes to mean food. A person without a nose but just two nostrils has a face that looks like a net; so a net becomes a good example of the spatial form of the person without a nose. A person with a longer right arm or left leg or right ear looks like someone stretched these organs; so a stretched person is a good example of people with organ asymmetries.

VERSE: Lv21-21c

TRANSLATION: *A blemished priest should not come near to offer [on] the fires of God [fires of the altar] he has a blemish, the offerings [lit. the bread of God] he should not*

	<i>offer</i>
METHOD:	Synecdoche
BRIEF EXPLANATION:	The word honey can refer to sweet because honey is a good example of sweetness. The technique of naming something by a good example is called synecdoche. There are a variety of Biblical Hebrew phrases using the word leftover; these are similar to the English idiom, my other half, referring to a wife. A person's leftover flesh refers to his relatives; a father's leftover refers to the father's wife; his leftover refers to his wife.
VERSE:	Lv21-20a.b.c
TRANSLATION:	<i>Blemished priests may not officiate at Temple services: [For example] eyebrowed, spotted, or mixed eye</i>
METHOD:	Synecdoche
BRIEF EXPLANATION:	The word Gav means eyebrow; so a GiBeN means a person with long eyebrows; the dotted eye person refers to a person with dots in his eyes; the mixed eyed person refers to a person whose white part of the eye streaks into the iris causing what looks like a mixture. In all 3 cases the eye blemish is named by a good example of it (synecdoche). Notice also that the verse groups 3 eye blemishes together. So context teaches us that all 3 of the terms refer to blemishes of the eye.
VERSE:	Lv21-02a
TRANSLATION:	<i>Except [priests may become ritually impure] to his wife [lit. leftover]</i>
METHOD:	Synecdoche
BRIEF EXPLANATION:	The word honey can refer to sweet because honey is a good example of sweetness. The technique of naming something by a good example is called synecdoche. There are a variety of Biblical Hebrew phrases using the word leftover; these are similar to the English idiom, my other half, referring to a wife. A person's leftover flesh refers to his relatives; a father's

leftover refers to the father's wife; his leftover refers to his wife.

VERSE: Lv21-17a
TRANSLATION: *A blemished priest may not come near to the altar to offer the offerings [lit. the bread of his God]*
METHOD: Synecdoche
BRIEF EXPLANATION: The word honey can refer to sweet because honey is a good example of sweetness. The word bread can refer to meals because bread is a good representative of the meal or a frequent part of the meal. This is true in English and Hebrew. Naming items by good examples is called synecdoche