

# SICHA POEM

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



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## Tazria, Sicha 3

— By Rabbi Mottel Friedman, Coral Springs, FL

If a Metzora walks into a house, since he is ritually impure  
He conveys that Tumah to all the vessels inside, from the front to the back door  
But if he walked in uninvited, the Tumah does not get conveyed  
Until the time it takes to light Shabbos candles is how long he stayed

The Rebbe's father explains the contrast between lighting candles and the laws of Metzora  
Metzora withdraws while candles draw down the spiritual level of Chochmah  
So all the while a person is busy lighting a candle, we say  
That the Tumah and the impurity of the Metzora is held at bay

The Rebbe explains the Shabbos candles and the Metzora with greater precision  
The sin of the Metzora is harmful speech that sows discord and division  
Rambam says that this division leads to something worse entirely  
It leads to division between Hashem and His world through the sin of idolatry

The essence of all of Torah and Mitzvos is to create and bring  
Peace and harmony to the world, a unifying thing  
Yet the mitzvah of Shabbos candles is unique because it's not abstract  
It brings an actual physical light, a tangible peaceful impact

We are told that the Shabbos candles bring peace to the home  
Since its light ensures that folks won't trip "on a piece of wood or stone"  
"Wood or stone" is a reference to man-made idols – a divisive disgrace  
And Shabbos lights reveal Hashem's unity, the divide is divinely erased

And so the light of the Shabbos candles which promotes peace and unity  
Is a powerful antidote to the divisiveness of the Metzora's impurity  
And as such while the Shabbos candles are being lit for all to see  
The Tumah spread of a Metzora cannot come to be

From this we see the urgency of making sure that it's well-known  
That even girls and young women should light Shabbos candles of their own  
For by doing so they will introduce more harmony and light  
To their personal lives and their surroundings, making the world right

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