

Likkutei Sichos

Volume 18 | Chukas | Sicha 2 Source Sheet

א.

1. במדבר י״ט:י״א

ָהַנֹּגֵעַ בָּמֵת לְכָל־נֵפֵשׁ אָדֶם וְטָמֵא שָׁבָעַת יָמֵים:

Numbers 19:11

He who touches the corpse of any human being shall be unclean for seven days.

2. ילקוט שמעוני על התורה תשס"א

... הנוגע במת, נוגע במת טמא ואין מת עצמו טמא. נוגע במת טמא ואין בנה של שונמית טמא. אמרו בנה של שונמית כשמת כל שהיה עמו בבית טמא שבעת ימים, וכשחי' היה טהור לקודש חזרו ונגעו בו וטמאוהו הם. הרי זה אומר מטמאיך לא טמאוני ואתה טומאתני....

Yalkut Shimoni on the Torah 761

"He who touches the corpse" – [from here we derive:] One who touches a corpse is impure, but the corpse itself is not impure. One who touches a corpse is impure, but the son of the Shunamite woman is not impure. The sages said: when the son of the Shunamite woman died, anything with him in the house became impure for seven days. And when he was resurrected, he was pure regarding touching sacrifices. Then the items in the house touched him, and caused him to become impure. This says: "that which made you impure did not make me impure, and you made me impure..."

2b. מלכים ב' ד׳

(ח) וּיָהֹי הַיּוֹם וּיִּעֲבָּר אֱלִישָׁע אֶל־שׁוּנָם וְשָׁם ֹּאשָׁה גְּדוֹלֶּה וַתַּחֲזֶק־בָּוֹ לֶאֱכָל־לֶחֶם וְיְהִיֹ מִדִּי עְבְרֹוֹ יָסֵר שָׁמָּה לֶאֱכָל־לֶחֶם... (יב) וַיֹּאמֶר אָלְפּגִיינ נְעֲרֹוּ קְרָא לַשׁוּנַמִּית הַזֻּאֹת וַיִּקְרָא־לָּה וְתַּעֲמִד לְפָגֵיי: (יג) וְיּאמֶר לוֹ אֱמָר־גָּא אֵלֶיהָ וַיִּקְרָא־לֶה וְתַּעֲמִד בַּפְּתַח: (טז) ווּאמֶר לְמוֹעֵד בַּיָּתְה כָּיָב בְּשִׁפְחָתֶךְ: (יז) וַתַּהַר הָאשָׁה וַתַּלֶּד בֵּן לַמוֹעֵד הַזָּה כְּאֹב בְּשִׁחְתָּרָ: (יז) וַתַּהַר הָאשָׁה וַתְּלֶּד בֵּן לַמוֹעֵד הַזָּה כְּאַר הָנַעְר הַיָּה אָל־אָבֶיו רֹאשִׁי וֹהֹעֹל אָל־הַנְּעַר שִׁיָּה אֶלִיהָשְׁע: (יח) וַיִּגְדָּל הַיֶּלֶד וַיְהִי הַּוֹּם וַיֵּצֵא אֶל־אָבֶיו אֶל־הַבָּנְים וַיִּמְתַּת (כֹא) וַתִּעַל וֹתִשְׁכְּבֹהוּ עַל־מִשָּׁת אָישׁ הָאֶלֹהִים וַתְּסְגָּר וֹים וֹתִּסְלָּתְר בָּן הַאַּעִיר הָיִּם וַּבְּאָב עַל־בִּרְבְּיִם וַיִּצֵא אֶל־אָבֶיו נִים וּמְסְגָּר (כֹא) וְיּאמֶר אָל־אָבָיו רֹאשִׁי וֹ רֹאשֵׁי וֹבּאָל הָיָלֶד וַיְהִי הַוּם וַיַּצֵא אֶל־בָּרְבָיוֹ וַנְּמְת: (יט) וְיּאמֶר לָּבְּכָּה עַל־בִּקְבָּים וַנְמְת: (כֹא) וַבּּעַל וֹתָשְׁכּבֹהוּ עַל־בִּשְׁת הָּשִׁת הָּוֹים וַבְּשָׁת בְּיוֹ בּאָלוּה וּיִבְיאָהוּ וַבְּשָׁת בְּל הַבְּלָב בְּיִבְיאָהוּ וַבְּישָׁת הָיוֹם וַיִּצְא אֶל־בָּבְרָם וַנְמְת: (יט) וְהַעַּלֵלוֹתְשְׁכִבְּהוּ עַל־בִּאָתוֹ וּיָשָׁב עַל־בּּרְכְיֵה עַד־הַצְּהָהוּ עַל־בּאָבוֹו וַיְבִשְׁת אָישׁ הָאֶל־הָאָם וֹ וַיִּשְׁבֹּי בְּיִבּיאָהוּ וּבְּישׁב עַל־בּּבְרָכְיִה הַ עִּלְים בּן וֹמִבּי בְּיִבּי בְּיִים בּּבְּים בּיִבְּים וַנְּמְיִב בְּיוֹם בּיִבְּים בּּבְּים בּיּבְּים בְּיִבּי בְּיִבּי בְּיִבּים בּיִם בְּיִבּי בָּבְיּים בּיִבְּים בּיִבְּיִים בּיִבּיּבְּהוּים בּיִּיּבְיּבְּעָּים בְּיִים בּיִבּים בּאָּבְים בּיִבְּיִבְיב

בַּעְדָוֹ וַתַּצֵא... (לב) וַיָּבָאׁ אֱלִישָׁע הַבֶּיִתָּה וְהִנֶּה הַנַּעַרֹ מֵּת מֻשְׁבָּב עַל־מִטֶּתְוֹ: (לג) וַיַּבֵּא וַיִּסְגַּר הַדֶּלֶת בְּעַד שְׁנֵיהֶם וַיִּתְפַּלֵּל אֶל־יְהֹוֶה: (לד) וַיַּעַל וַיִּשְׁבַּב עַל־הַיֶּלֶד וַיָּשֶׁם פִּיו עַל־פִּיו וְעֵינֵיו עַל־עֵינִיוֹ וְכַפֶּיו עַל־כַּפָּו וַיִּגְהָר עָלֵיו וַיִּחָם בְּשַׂר הַיָּלֶד: (לה) וַיִּשְׁב וַיִּלֶךְ בַּבַּיִת אַחַת הַנָּהֹ וְאַחָת הֵׁנָה וַיִּאַל וַיִּגְהָר עָלֶיו ווִיזוֹרֵר הַנַּעַר עַד־שֶׁבַע פִּעְמִים וַיִּפְקָח הַנַּעַר אֶת־עִינֵיו:

2b. II Kings 4

"(8) One day Elisha visited Shunem. A wealthy woman lived there, and she urged him to have a meal; and whenever he passed by, he would stop there for a meal... (12) He said to his servant Gehazi, "Call that Shunammite woman." He called her, and she stood before him. (13) He said to him, "Tell her, 'You have gone to all this trouble for us. What can we do for you?... (14) "...The fact is," said Gehazi, "she has no son, and her husband is old." (15) "Call her," he said. He called her, and she stood in the doorway. (16) And Elisha said, "At this season next year, you will be embracing a son." She replied, "Please, my lord, man of G-d, do not delude your maidservant." (17) The woman conceived and bore a son at the same season the following year, as Elisha had assured her. (18) The child grew up. One day, he went out to his father among the reapers. (19) [Suddenly] he cried to his father, "Oh, my head, my head!" He said to a servant, "Carry him to his mother." (20) He picked him up and brought him to his mother. And the child sat on her lap until noon; and he died. (21) She took him up and laid him on the bed of the man of G-d, and left him and closed the door... (32) Elisha came into the house, and there was the boy, laid out dead on his couch. (33) He went in, shut the door behind the two of them, and prayed to Hashem. (34) Then he mounted [the bed] and placed himself over the child. He put his mouth on its mouth, his eyes on its eyes, and his hands on its hands, as he bent over it. And the body of the child became warm. (35) He stepped down, walked once up and down the room, then mounted and bent over him. Thereupon, the boy sneezed seven times, and the boy opened his eyes.

ב.

3. נדה ס״ט ב'-ע׳ ב'

ת"ר שנים עשר דברים שאלו אנשי אלכסנדריא את רבי יהושע בן חיננא ג' דברי חכמה ג' דברי הגדה ג' דברי בורות ג' דברי דרך ארץ... שלשה דברי בורות אשתו של לוט מהו שתטמא אמר להם מת מטמא ואין נציב מלח מטמא בן שונמית מהו שיטמא אמר להן מת מטמא ואין חי מטמא מתים לעתיד לבא צריכין הזאה שלישי ושביעי או אין צריכין אמר להן לכשיחיו נחכם להן איכא דאמרי לכשיבא משה רבינו עמהם

רש"י: בן השונמית - שהחיה אלישע מהו שיטמא לאחר שהחיהו מי חשוב כמת:

3. Niddah 69b-70b

Hinnana. Three of them were matters of wisdom, three were matters of aggada, three were matters of ignorance, and three were matters of behavior... The Gemara lists the three matters of ignorance that the sages of Alexandria asked Rabbi Yehoshua. What is the halakha with regard to the wife of Lot, who was turned into a pillar of salt as she fled from the city of Sodom (Genesis 19:26), in terms of whether she transmits ritual impurity as a corpse? Rabbi Yehoshua said to them: A corpse transmits ritual impurity, but a pillar of salt, even if it was formerly a person, does not impart ritual impurity. The sages of Alexandria also asked Rabbi Yehoshua: What is the halakha with regard to the son of the Shunammite woman, who

died and was brought to life by Elisha (II Kings 4:33–36), in terms of whether he transmits ritual impurity after his resurrection? Rabbi Yehoshua said to them: A corpse transmits ritual impurity, but a living person does not transmit ritual impurity, even if he had been dead temporarily. The sages of Alexandria also asked Rabbi Yehoshua: With regard to the dead who will be resurrected in the future, will they require sprinkling with ashes of the red heifer on the third and seventh days, like one who is purified after coming into contact with a corpse, or will they not require that sprinkling? Rabbi Yehoshua said to them: When they come to life, we will be clever for them and clarify the *halakha*. There are those who say that Rabbi Yehoshua said to them: When Moshe our teacher comes with them, he will tell us the correct *halakha*.

ג.

4. מלכים א י"ז:י"ז-כ"ד

וְיָהִי אַחַרֹ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶה חָלֶּה בֶּן־הָאִשָּׁה בַּעֲלֵת הַבָּיִת וַיְהִי חָלִיוֹ חָזֶק מְאֹד עֶד אֲשֶׁר לֹא־נְוֹתְרָה־בָּוֹ נְשְׁמֶה: וַתּּאֹמֶר אֶל־אֵלִיָּהוּ מַה־לִּי וּיָהִי אַחָר הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶה חָלֶּה בְּעָלֵה הַבְּיִי וִיּאמֶר אָלִיּ הְאָשֶׁר אָלִי הְבָּנְי וִיּאמֶר אָלִי הְצָּיִה אָלִים בְּאָת אֵלָי לְהַזְּצִיר אֶת־בְּנָוּ וִיּאמֶר יְהֹוֶה אֱלֹהִי הְצָּיה אְל־יְהֹוֶה וַיִּאמֶר יְהֹוֶה אֱלֹהִי הְצָּב שְׁם וַיַּשְׁכְּבָהוּ עַל־בְּיֶלֶד שְׁלְשׁ פְּעָמִים וַיִּקְרֶא אֶל־יִהֹוֶה וַיּאמֶר יְהֹוֶה אֱלֹהִי תְּשָׁב נְא נֶשְׁר־בְּיֶלֶד עַל־בְּיֶלֶד שַׁלִי שְׁלְשׁ פְּעָמִים וַיִּקְרֶא אֶל־יִהֹוֶה וִיּאמֶר יְהֹוֶה אֱלֹהִי תָּשָׁב נְא נֶשִּיב הָיֶלֶד עַל־בְּרָבְּוֹ וַיִּחְתָּ אֵלִיהוּ אֶת־בּיֶּלֶד עַל־בְּרָבְּוֹ וַיְּחִי: וַיִּלְּח אֵלּיָהוּ אֶת־בּיֶּלֶד וַיִּרְבָהוּ מִן־בְּרָבְוֹ וַהְּאָבְיר וְיִּתְה וְבִּילְיה בַּבְּיִתְה וְיִּתְבְּה וְבִּתְר אֲמִר בְּבִיים הָאִלִּים וַיִּהְתָב בְּרִים בְּאִשְׁר בְּבָּשׁ־בְּיֶלֶד עַל־בְּרְבָּוֹ וַיְּחִי: וַיִּלְּח אֵלּיָהוּ וּיִאמֶר יְהֹוֶה מִוֹלְיָה בְּיִרְבְּוֹ וַיְּחִי: וַיִּלְּח אֵלּיָהוּ אֶת־בּלֶּלֶד וַיִּרְבָהוּ מִוְלְיָה בְּיִבְּירְ אֲמְבֹים בְּאָבִיל עִתְי כֵּי אִישׁ אֵלֹיהם אָתָה וּדְבַר־יִהֹוֶה בְּפִיך אֱמֵב.

I Kings 17:17-24

After a while, the son of the mistress of the house fell sick, and his illness grew worse, until he had no breath left in him. She said to Elijah, "What harm have I done you, O man of G-d, that you should come here to recall my sin and cause the death of my son?" "Give me the boy," he said to her; and taking him from her arms, he carried him to the upper chamber where he was staying, and laid him down on his own bed. He cried out to Hashem and said, "O LORD my G-d, will You bring calamity upon this widow whose guest I am, and let her son die?" Then he stretched out over the child three times, and cried out to Hashem, saying, "O LORD my G-d, let this child's life return to his body!" Hashem heard Elijah's plea; the child's life returned to his body, and he revived. Elijah picked up the child and brought him down from the upper room into the main room, and gave him to his mother. "See," said Elijah, "your son is alive." And the woman answered Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of G-d and that the word of Hashem is truly in your mouth."

т.

5. משנה תורה, הלכות טומאת מת ב':ו'

האבר והבשר המדולדלים באדם ואע"פ שאין יכולין לחזור ולחיות טהורים מת האדם הרי הבשר טהור והאבר מטמא משום אבר מן החי ואינו מטמא משום אבר מן המת. מה בין אבר מן החי לאבר מן המת אבר מן החי בשר הפורש ממנו ועצם הפורש ממנו טהורים ואבר מן המת בשר הפורש ממנו ועצם הפורש ממנו כמפורשים מן המת השלם ומטמאין בשיעורן:

Rambam, Mishneh Torah, the Laws of impurity by a corpse 2:6

The following laws apply when there is a limb and/or flesh limply hanging from a person. Even though they cannot be restored to their natural state and vitality, they are pure. If the person dies, the flesh is pure and the limb imparts ritual impurity according to the laws pertaining to a limb severed from a living body and not according to the laws pertaining to a limb severed from a corpse.

What are the differences between the laws pertaining to a limb severed from a living body and the laws

pertaining to a limb severed from a corpse? Flesh and bones that become separated from a limb severed from a living person are pure. Flesh and bones that become separated from a limb severed from a corpse are considered as if they were separate from an entire corpse and impart impurity according to the appropriate measures.

6. משנה תורה, הלכות טומאת מת ג׳:ט׳

המת שנשרף ושלדו קיימת והוא השדרה והצלעות ה"ז מטמא כמת שלם ואצ"ל אם נחרך אבל אם נשרף עד שנתבלבלה צורת תבניתו טהור וכן שפיר מרוקם שטרפו במים טהור שהרי נתבלבלה צורתו:

Rambam, Mishneh Torah, the Laws of impurity by a corpse 3:9

When a corpse was burned and its skeleton - i.e., the backbone and the ribs - is intact, it conveys impurity like an entire corpse. Needless to say, this applies if the flesh is merely charred. If, however, it is burnt to the extent that its form is destroyed, it is ritually pure.

Similarly, if a miscarried embryo which had already begun to have its limbs take form was mixed with water, it is pure, because its form was destroyed.

ה.

7. שמות ד׳:א׳-ז׳

וַיָּעַן מֹשֶׁהֹ וּיֹּאמֶר וְהַּןֹ לְארִיאָמֶינוּ לִּי וְלָא יִשְׁמְעָוּ בְּקֹלֵי כִּי ְיֹאמְרֹוּ לְא־נִרְאָה אֵלֶיךְ יְהוֶה: וָיֹּאמֶר אֵלֶיוּ יְהוֶה מזה [מַה־] [זָה] בְיָדֶךְ וְיֹּאמֶר מַשֶּׁה: וַיֹּאמֶר וְהַלְּיבְהוּ אַרְצָה וַיִּשְׁלִיכֵהוּ אַרְצָה וַיִּשְׁלִיכֵהוּ אַרְצָה וַיִּשְׁלְיבֵהוּ אַרְצָה וַיִּשְׁלְיבָהוּ אַרְצָה וַיִּשְׁלְיבָה וְיִשְׁלְים עַיָּלָס מֹשֶׁה מִפְּנֵיו: וְיֹּאמֶר יְהוֶהֹ אֶל־מִשְׁה שְׁלַתְּן יִאֲמְינוּ כִּי־נִרְאָה אֵלֶיךְ יְהוֹה אֱלֹמִי אֲבֹתָם אֱלֹמִי אַבְרָתָם אֱלֹמִי יִצְחָק וֵאלֹתִי יַצְחָק וַיּאמֶר יְהוֹה לוֹ עוֹד וְיַחְלָב יְדָוֹ בְּמִיקוֹ וְיּוֹצָאָהּ וְהַנָּה יָדָוֹ מְצֹלְיך יְהוֹה מַשְׁלֵג: וַיֹּאמֶר הָשֵׁב יֶדְךֹּ אֶל־חֵילֶּךְ וְיָשֶׁב יָדָוֹ אֶל־חֵיקוֹ וְיּוֹצָאָהּ מְחִילְוֹ וְיּוֹצָאָהּ מְחִילְוֹ וְיּוֹצָאָהּ מְחִילְוֹ וְיּוֹצָאָהּ מְחִילְוֹ וְיּוֹצָאָהּ מְחִילְוֹ וְיִּצְּבָּה בִּיִּיְרְרְּ בְּשְׁרִוֹי.

Exodus 4:1-7

But Moshe spoke up and said, "What if they do not believe me and do not listen to me, but say: Hashem did not appear to you?" Hashem said to him, "What is that in your hand?" And he replied, "A rod." He said, "Cast it on the ground." He cast it on the ground and it became a snake; and Moshe recoiled from it. Then Hashem said to Moshe, "Put out your hand and grasp it by the tail"—he put out his hand and seized it, and it became a rod in his hand— "that they may believe that Hashem, the G-d of their fathers, the G-d of Abraham, the G-d of Isaac, and the G-d of Jacob, did appear to you." Hashem said to him further, "Put your hand into your bosom." He put his hand into his bosom; and when he took it out, his hand was encrusted with snowy scales! And He said, "Put your hand back into your bosom."—He put his hand back into his bosom; and when he took it out of his bosom, there it was again like the rest of his body.

י"א.

8. משנה כלים י״ח:ו׳

מִטָּה שֶׁהָיְתָה טְמֵאָה מִדְרָס, נִשְׁבְּרָה אֲרֻכָּה וְתִקְנָהּ, טְמֵאָה מִדְרָס. נִשְׁבְּרָה שְׁנִיָּה וְתִקְנָהּ, טְהוֹרָה מִן הַמִּדְרָס, אֲבָל טְמֵאָה מַגַּע מִדְרָס. לֹא הִסְפִּיק לְתַקֵּן אֶת הָרִאשׁוֹנָה עַד שֶׁנִּשְׁבָּרָה שְׁנִיָּה, טְהוֹרָה:

Mishnah Kelim 18:6

A bed that had contracted midras impurity: If a long side of it was broken and then he repaired it, it still retains

its midras impurity. If the second side was also broke and then he repaired it, it becomes pure from midras impurity but is unclean by virtue of contact with midras. If before one could manage to repair the first side the second one broke, the bed becomes clean.

9. סנהדרין צ׳ ב'-צ״א א'

א"ל קיסר לרבן גמליאל אמריתו דשכבי חיי הא הוו עפרא ועפרא מי קא חיי אמרה ליה ברתיה שבקיה ואנא מהדרנא ליה שני יוצרים יש בעירנו אחד יוצר מן המים ואחד יוצר מן הטיט איזה מהן משובח א"ל זה שיוצר מן המים א"ל מן המים צר מן הטיט לא כל שכן דבי ר' ישמעאל תנא ק"ו מכלי זכוכית מה כלי זכוכית שעמלן ברוח בשר ודם נשברו יש להן תקנה בשר ודם שברוחו של הקב"ה על אחת כמה וכמה

Sanhedrin 90b-91a

The Roman emperor said to Rabban Gamliel: You say that the dead will live. Aren't they dust? And does dust come to life? The daughter of the emperor said to Rabban Gamliel: Leave him, and I will respond to him with a parable. She said: There are two craftsmen in our city; one fashions vessels from water, and one fashions vessels from mortar. Which is more noteworthy? The emperor said to her: It is that craftsman that fashions vessels from water. His daughter said to him: If he fashions a vessel from the water, all the more so is it not clear that he can fashion vessels from mortar? By the same token, if G-d was able to create the world from water, He is certainly able to resurrect people from dust. The school of Rabbi Yishmael taught that resurrection of the dead a fortiori from glass vessels: If concerning glass vessels, which are fashioned by the breath of those of flesh and blood, who blow and form the vessels, and yet if they break they can be repaired, as they can be melted and subsequently blown again, then with regard to those of flesh and blood, whose souls are a product of the breath of the Holy One, Blessed be He, all the more so can G-d restore them to life.

י"א.

10. קהלת רבה י"ב:ה׳

אַדְריָאנוּס שְׁחִיק עֲצָמוֹת מְחִיק שְׁמֵיהּ, שָׁאֵיל אֶת רַבִּי יְהוֹשֵׁעַ בֶּן חֲנַנְיָה אָמַר לֵיהּ מֵהֵיכָן אָדָם מֵנִיץ לֶעָתִיד לְבוֹא, אֲמַר לֵיהּ מִלּוּז שֶׁל שִׁדְרָה .אָמַר לוֹ הַרְאֵנִי, מֶה עָשָׂה הֵבִיא לוּז אֶחָד שֶׁל שִׁדְרָה נְתָנוֹ בְּמִיִם וְלֹא נִמְחָה, בְּאוּר וְלֹא נִשְׂרַף, בְּרֵיחַיִם וְלֹא נִטְחַן. נְתָנוֹ עַל הַסַּדְן וְהָכֶּה עָלִיו בָּפַשִּישׁ, נַחְלַק הַסַּדְן וָנָבִקע הַפַּטִּישׁ, וַלֹא הוֹעִיל כָּלוּם.

Bereishis Rabbah 28:3

... Hadrian, may his bones be crushed, asked Rabbi Joshua ben Hananiah: whence will man sprout in the Hereafter? He replied: from the nut (luz) of the spinal column. He said to him: prove it to me. He had one brought; he placed it in water but it did not dissolve, he put it in fire, but it was not burnt, he put it in a mill but it was not ground. He placed it on an anvil and struck it with a hammer; the anvil split and the hammer was broken but all this had no effect on the luz.

'ג ב'-ע"ד א' בבא בתרא ע"ג ב'-ע"ד א

וְאָמֵר רַבָּה בּר בּר חָנָה זִימְנָא חָדָא הָנָה קָא אָזְלִינַן בְּמִדְבְּרָא וְאִיתְלוּי בַּהָדַן הַהוּא טַיִּיעָא דַּהָנָה שָׁקֵיל עַפְרָא וּמוֹרַח לֵיהּ וְאָמֵר הָא אוֹרְחָא לְדוּכְתָּא פְּלָן אָמְרִינַן לִיהּ כִּמָּה מְרַחֲקִינַן מִמּיָּא וְאָמֵר לַן הַבּוּ לִי עַפְרָא יָהְבִינַן לֵיהּ וְאָמֵר לַן תַּמְנִי מְדְבָּר אָזָלִי חָזִיתִינְהוּ פּרְסֵי תָּנִינן וְיָהְבִינַן לֵיהּ אָמֵר לַן דִּמְרַחָקִינַן תְּלֶתָא פּרְסֵי אָפָכִית לֵיהּ וְלָא יְכִילִית לֵיהּ אָמֵר לִי תָּא אַחֲוֵי לְךְ מֵתֵי מִדְבָּר אָזַלִי חָזִיתִינְהוּ פּרְסֵי תָּנִינן וְיָהְבִינַן לֵיהּ אָמֵר לַן דִּמְרַחָקִינַן הְּלָתָא פּרְסֵי אָפָכִית לֵיהּ וְלָא יְכִילִית לֵיהּ אָמֵר לִי תָּא אַחֲוֵי לְךְ מֵתֵי מִדְבָּר אָזָלִי חָזִיתִינְהוּ וְרָמוּ רְמָיִם הַּנְנָה זְּקִיפָּא בּרְכֵּיהּ וְּלָא נְגַע יִיעָא תּוּתֵי בְּרְכֵיהּ כִּי רְכִיב גַּמְלָא וּזְקִיפָּא רוּמְחֵיהּ וְלָא נְגַע

בּיהּ פָּסקי חֲדָא קַרְנָא דִתְכַלְתָּא דְּחַד מִינּיִיהוּ וְלָא הָוָה מִסְתַּגִּי לוְ אָמר לי דּלְמָא שְׁקַלְתְּ מִידֵּי מִינּיִיהוּ אַהְדְּרֵיהּ דּגְמִירִי דְּמאן דְּשָׁקֵיל מִידֵי מִינּיִיהוּ לָא מִסְתַּגִי לֵיהּ אָזַלִי אַהְדַרְתִּיהּ וָהַדָר מִסְתַּגִי לוְ

Bava Basra 73b-74a

And Rabba bar bar Ḥana said: Once we were traveling in the desert and we were accompanied by a certain Arab who would take dust and smell it and say: This is the road to such and such a place, and that is the road to such and such a place. We said to him: How far are we from water? And he said to us: Bring me dust. We brought it to him, and he said: Eight parasangs. Later, we said this a second time, and gave him dust, and he said to us that we are at a distance of three parasangs. I switched the type of dust to test him, but I could not confuse him, as he was an expert in this matter. That Arab said to me: Come, I will show you the dead of the wilderness, i.e., the Jewish people who left Egypt and died in the wilderness. I went and saw them; and they had the appearance of one who is intoxicated, and they were lying on their backs. And the knee of one of them was elevated, and he was so enormous that the Arab entered under his knee while riding a camel and with his spear upright, and he did not touch him. I cut one corner of the sky-blue garment that contains ritual fringes of one of them, and we were unable to walk. The Arab said to me: Perhaps you took something from them? Return it, as we know by tradition that one who takes something from them cannot walk. I then returned the corner of the garment, and then we were able to walk.

12. ישעיהו כ״ו:י״ט

ָיָחַיוּ מֵעֶּיךּ נְבַלָתָי יְקוּמֶוּן הָלָּיצוּ וְרַנְּנוּ שֹׁכְנֵי עָפָּר כִּי טַל אוֹרֹת טַלֶּךְ וָאָרֵץ רִפָּאֵים תַּפֵּיל:

Isaiah 26:19

Oh, let Your dead revive! Let corpses arise! Awake and shout for joy, You who dwell in the dust!— For Your dew is like the dew on fresh growth; You make the land of the shades come to life.

13. פרקי דרבי אליעזר ל"ד

ר' ישמעאל אומר, כל המתים כעפר הארץ עד שלא נשתייר מן הגוף אלא כמלא תרווד רקב והוא מתערב בעפר כשאור שהוא מתערב בעיסה. לעתיד לבא כשיפקוד הב"ה ליתן פקדונות כל גופות הוא מערב בארץ כעפר מייפה ומרבה אותה מיד כל הארץ רעשה וההרים מזדעזעים וקברות נפתחות ואני אומ' קברות מתפרדות אשה מאת רעותה שנ' ויושיעם ה' אלהיכם ביום ההוא.

Pirkei DeRabbi Eliezer 34

Rabbi Ishmael said: All the bodies crumble into the dust of the earth, until nothing remains of the body except a spoonful of earthy matter. In the future life, when the Holy One, blessed be He, calls to the earth to return all the bodies deposited with it, that which had become mixed with the dust of the earth, like the yeast which is mixed with the dough, improves and increases, and it raises up all the body. When the Holy One, blessed be He, calls to the earth to return all the bodies deposited with it, that which has become mixed with the dust of the earth, improves and increases and raises up all the body without water. Forthwith the earth quakes and the mountains tremble, and the graves are opened, and the stones of the graves are scattered about one from the other, as it is said, "And Hashem G-d shall save them || in that day as the flock of his people: for they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted on high over his land" (Zech. 9:16).

14. משנה אהלות ב׳:א׳,ג׳

אֵלוּ מְטַמְּאִין בְּאֹהֶל. הַמֵּת, וְכַזַיִּת מִן הַמֵּת, וְכַזַיִּת נֶצֶל, וּמְלֹא תַרְוָד רָקְב, הַשִּׁדְרָה, וְהַגַּלְגֹּלֶת, אֵבָר מִן הַמֵּת וְאֵבָר מִן הַחֵי שֶׁיֵשׁ עֲלֵיהֶן בָּשֶּר כָּרָאוּי, רֹבַע עֲצָמוֹת מֵרֹב הַבִּנְיָן אוֹ מֵרֹב הַמִּנְיָן. וְרֹב בִּנְיָנוֹ וְרֹב מִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל מֵת, אַף עַל פִּי שֶׁאֵין בָּהֶם רֹבַע, טְמֵאִין. כַּמָּה הוּא רֹב מִנְיָנוֹ, מֵאָה וְעֶשְׂרִים וַחֲמִשָּׁה :

אֵלוּ מְטַמְּאִין בְּמַגָּע וּבְמַשָּׂא וְאֵינָן מְטַמְּאִין בְּאֹהֶל. עֶצֶם כַּשְּׁעֹרָה, וְאֶרֶץ הָעמִים, וּבֵית הַפְּרָס, אֵבָר מִן הַמֵּת, וְאֵבָר מִן הַחֵי שָׁאֵין עֲלֵיהֶן בָּשֶׁרְה, וְאֶרֶץ הָעמִים, וּבֵית הַפְּרָס, אֵבָר מִן הַמֵּת, וְאֵבָר מִן הַחֵי שְׁמָאי חִלְיוֹת. וּבִית הָלֵּל אוֹמְרִים, בְּשָּׁדְרָה, בֵּית שַׁמַאי אוֹמְרִים, בְּאֵיזֶה מִקְדֵּחַ. וּבֵית הָלֵּל אוֹמְרִים, כְּדֵי שֶׁיִּנְּטֵל מִן הַחֵי וְיָמוּת. בְּאֵיזֶה מִקְדֵּחַ אָמְרוּ, בַּקְּטָן שֶׁל רִשְׁכָּה: רוֹפָאִים, דְּבָרֵי רַבִּי מֵאִיר. וַחָכָמִים אוֹמְרִים, בַּגָּדוֹל שֶׁל לְשָׁכָּה:

Mishnah Oholot 2:1,3

These things defile by overshadowing: a corpse, an olive-sized [portion of flesh] of a corpse, an olive-sized [portion] of nezel, a ladleful of corpse-mold, the spine or the skull, [a] full limb of a corpse, or [a full] limb [severed] from a living person with the appropriate amount of flesh, a quarter [of a kav] of bones from the structural majority or numerical majority, and the structural majority or numerical majority [of the bones] of a corpse even though they do not amount to a quarter [of a kab]; [all these] are unclean. How many [bones] form the numerical majority? One hundred and twenty-five.

The following defile by contact and carriage but not by overshadowing: A bone of barleycorn size, Earth from a foreign country, A bet peras, A limb of a corpse, or a limb [severed] from a living person which has no longer its appropriate flesh, A spine or a skull which is deficient. How much is [considered] a deficiency in the spine? Bet Shammai say: two vertebrae, But Bet Hillel say: even one vertebra. And in the skull? Bet Shammai say: [the size of a] hole [made] by a drill, But Bet Hillel say: as much as would be taken from a living person and he would die. Of what drill did they speak? Of the small one [used] by physicians, the words of Rabbi Meir. But the sages say: of the large one in the Temple-chamber.

15. משנה תורה, הלכות טומאת מת ג':ד'

אַין רֶקֶב הַמֵּת מְטַמֵּא עַד שֶׁיִּקְבֵר עָרֹם בְּאָרוֹן שֶׁל שַׁיִשׁ אוֹ שֶׁל זְכוּכִית וְכַיּוֹצֵא בָּהֶן וְיִהְיֶה כַּלוֹ שָׁלַם...

Rambam, Mishneh Torah, the Laws of impurity by a corpse 3:4

The decomposed mass of a corpse does not impart ritual impurity unless it is buried naked in a coffin of marble, glass, or the like, and it was totally intact at the time of burial...

יג.

16. מדרש תנחומא, חקת י׳

...אף כָּךָ אָמֵר מֹשֶׁה, רָבּוֹנוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלָם, הָרֵי גָּזַרְתָּ עָלֵי לָמוּת בַּמִּדְבָּר עִם הַדּוֹר הָרַע הַיָּה שֶׁהִכְעִיסוּךְּ, שֶׁנֶּאֲמֵר: כַּמָּה יַמְרוּהוּ בַּמִּדְבָּר עִם הַדּוֹר הָרַע הַלִּים עח, מ) .עַרְשָׁוּ יֹאמְרוּ הַדּוֹרוֹת, אַף אֲנִי שְׁוֹה לְהֶם. יִכְתֹּב עָלַי עַל מַה נָּעֲנִשְׁתִּי. לְפִיכְּךְ כְּתִיב: יַעַן לֹא הָאֱמִנְּתֶם בְּאִייָּה בְּיִים אַתָּה מְבַקְשׁ לְבוֹא לְאֶרֶץ. מְשָׁל לְמָה הַדְּבָר דּוֹמֶה. בִּי לְהַקְדִישׁנִי. לָכֵן לֹא תָּבִיאוּ. אָמַר הַקְּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא לְמֹשֶׁה, מֹשֶׁה, בְּאֵיזֶה פָּנִים אַתָּה מְבַקְשׁ לְבוֹא לְאֶרֶץ. מְשָׁל לְמָה הַדְּבָּר דּוֹמֶה. לְינִעוֹת צֹאנוֹ שֶׁל מֶלֶךְ, וְנִשְׁבֵּית הַצֹּאן. בִּקְשׁ הָרוֹעָה לִיכְּנֵס לְפַלְטְרִין שֶׁל מֶלֶךְ. אָמֵר לוֹ הַמֶּדְוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא לְמֹשֶׁה, שְׁבְחֲךְ הוּא שֶׁהוֹצֵאתָ שְׁשִׁים רְבּוֹא וּקְבַרְתָּם בַּמִּדְבָּר, וְאַתָּה מִכְנִיס דּוֹר אַחֵר. עַרְשִׁוֹ יִאבּץ לְנְעוֹלְם הַבָּא. אֶלָא תִּהְיֶהְ בְּצרן וְתָבֹא עִמֶּהֶם, שֶׁנֶּאֱמֵר: וַיַּתֵא רָאשֵׁי עָם וְגוֹ '(דברים לֹּר, כֹא) .לְכָךְ נָאֲמֵר: וַיַּתֵא רָאשֵׁי עָם וְגוֹ '(דברים לֹּר, כֹא) .לְכָךְ נָאֲמֵר: לֵּא תָּת הַקְּהָל הַזָּה, שַּיָּצָא עִמְּה.

Midrash Tanchuma, Chukat 10

So too Moshe said to the Holy One, blessed be He, "Master of the world, see, You have decreed for me to

die in the desert along with this wicked generation who angered You," as stated (in Ps. 78:40), "How often did they defy Him in the desert and grieve Him in the wilderness." "Now the [future] generations will say I was like them. Let it be written about me why I came to be punished." It is therefore written (in Numb. 20:12), "because you did not trust in Me to sanctify Me, therefore you will not bring." The Holy One, blessed be He, said to Moshe, "With what countenance do you want to enter the land?" The situation is comparable to a shepherd who went out to feed the king's flock, and the flock was carried off. [When] the shepherd wanted to come into the king's palace, the king said to him, "They will say that you caused the flock to be carried off." Here also the Holy One, blessed be He, said to Moshe, "[Would it be] your glory that you are the one who led sixty myriads out [of bondage] and buried them in the desert and are bringing another generation into [the land]. Now they will say, 'The generation of the wilderness has no share in the world to come.' Rather be in their pain, and come along with them [in the future]." Thus it is stated (in Deut. 33:21), "[for there is an honored lawgiver's portion,] where he came at the head of the people...." Therefore it is stated (in Numb. 20:12), "therefore you shall not lead this congregation," that came out with you.