

5. The Lesson from Healing/Medicine

Various sources indicate that this worm was used for different healing properties. One for heart palpitations.⁷ One reference indicates that 80% of these worms are in Peru and some medications required thousands of these Peruvian worms to make a dose to heal a person.⁸ Jesus didn't say that he was several thousand worms, through the Psalmist, he said he was a worm. Just one, but with the power to heal the entire world. Jesus is the cure for our sick world.



Isaiah 53:5

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6. The Lesson from Humanity/Sacrifice

There's a permanent stain, a one-time deal for humanity. Would you be willing to die for a friend? Would you be willing to die for a criminal? That's exactly what Jesus did.

Romans 5:7-8

7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.
8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.



Q: Are you covered by the blood?

This document and other resources can be downloaded at: www.holywordcafe.com/tours

⁷ <http://books.google.com>: Needles, Herbs, Gods, and Ghosts - China, Healing, and the West to 1848

⁸ <http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=6280471449>

The Crimson Worm [ANSWERS]

Studios Lessons from the Scarlet Dye - by Chuck Louviere M.Div.BL

The First of 7 Crucifixion Sayings from the Suffering Savior

Matthew 27:45-47

45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

47 Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said, This man calleth for Elias.

This is a quote from a Messianic Psalm 22 (1,000 B.C.)

Psalm 22:1:6

1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?

6 But I am a worm [תולעת *towla'at*], and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people.

1. The Lesson from Humility/Meekness

The picture of a worm is normally associated with *disgrace* or *disgust*.

- Hell is a place where the "worm dieth not"
- Hoarding more manna than God instructed caused worms
- Job compared himself to a worm
- Wormwood is bitter
- A worm ate Jonah's gourd
- Herod Agrippa I in Acts was "eaten of worms"
- *At The Cross* lyrics.

2. The Lesson from History/Culture

Strong's Concordance on "tola'at" & "shani"

OT:8438: *towla`* (to-law'); and (feminine) *towle` ah* (to-lay-aw'); or *towla` ath* (to-lah'-ath); or *tola` ath* (to-lah'-ath); from OT:3216; a maggot (as voracious); specifically (often with ellipsis of OT:8144) the crimson-grub, but used only (in this connection) of the color from it, and cloths dyed therewith: **KJV - crimson, scarlet, worm.**

OT:8144: *shaniy* (shaw-nee'); of uncertain derivation; crimson, properly, the insect or its color, also stuff dyed with it: **KJV - crimson, scarlet (thread).**

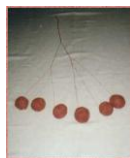
Different individuals have identified this worm. Some Israeli Jews say it is a mountainous "**Armenian Conchial Insect**" (*tola'at shani*)¹ It infests certain types of evergreen Mediterranean oaks.² The worm attaches itself to the wood, makes a hard crimson shell, and gives birth to a family. This is done only once as the attachment is permanent. To remove the shell is to destroy the worm. As the young ones grow (feeding off of the living body of the mother³) they would come out of the shell which would permanently color the children and the tree in crimson. This is a willful and painful sacrifice. After a few days when the young can survive apart from the mother, she dies and the mother's body turns into a white wax and falls to the ground like snow.



Because this is a short process (just a few days), during this limited time, the scarlet from the eggs of this worm (called "Coccus ilicis") would be scraped from the tree (destroying the worm), dried and pulverized, then this powder would be used to produce the red dye.⁴ WHAT A PICTURE! Jesus, through the psalmist, 3,000 years ago, said that He was this "crimson worm" and we are His children.



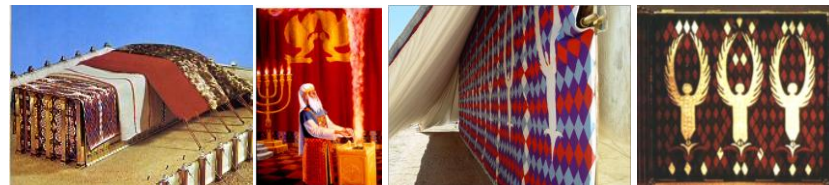
It is interesting to note that **The Temple Institute** in the Old City of Jerusalem, at this time in history, has already spun crimson thread made from the "*tola'at shani*" (Armenian Conchial Insect) to be used in the **ephod** of the high priest.⁵



The Biblical Usage of "tola'at" & "shani"

As Offerings	(Exodus 25:4)
Tabernacle Coverings and Curtains	(Exodus 26-27)
High Priest's Holy Garments/Breastplate	(Exodus 28 & 39)
Veil of the Tabernacle/Temple	(Exodus 26 & 36)
Rahab's Thread	(Joshua 2)
Virtuous Woman's Household	(Proverbs 31)
Shulamite Bride	(Song of Solomon 4)
Sin	(Isaiah 1:18)
Jesus' Robe	(Matthew 27:28)

These objects all have color that comes from the crushed worm.



3. The Lesson from **Hosts/Power**

- The worm willingly gets on the tree to die a sacrificial death for the family. The Messiah was not forced to get on the tree. No one else *ultimately* placed him on the tree. Though certain Jews took a part in his crucifixion, and though Rome executed his sentence, religious leaders did not put Christ to death, the government did not put the LORD to death, and nails did not hold Jesus to the tree. He died willingly for you and I. WE are the reason Jesus WILLINGLY died for the sins of the world.
- JESUS UNDERSTOOD AUTHORITY. Philippians 2:7 (made himself of no reputation); Matthew 26:52-53 (Peter, 12 Legions of angels); Matthew 8:5-13 (Centurion's servant); John 19:10-12 (before Pilate);



John 10:18 (to His disciples)

No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

4. The Lesson from **Hereditary/Family**

His death was a willing act of love. That's what held Jesus on the cross. Out of His crimson blood, the family of God was born. It seems that today so many people have strayed from the message of the cross and the blood atonement.



¹ The Temple Institute

² http://schlognet.blogspot.com/2005_11_01_archive.html

³ <http://www.anglicanorthodoxchurch.org/Publications/Holiday%20Letters/TheCrimsonWorm.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.goldenminutes.org/Bible%20Study/Tabernacle/Lesson%206.htm>

⁵ http://www.templeinstitute.org/archive/construction_breastplate.htm