



Hananya Naftali, a young Israeli Messianic soldier in the IDF

The following is from Hananya:

This is a view of the responses I receive online. "I hate all of you Jews", "I hope you enjoy killing children", "Death to Israel". Usually I don't reply to these hate messages because I know it won't help, they are just too sure to be wrong. But one day I got a message and just couldn't resist replying.

It was a young Arab guy that asked me if I'm proud to serve in an army of killers that commits war crimes. Now, of course I know that it's false because I'm in the military so I know little better than him. Anyway, I decided to reply back to this guy with the following message: "*Hi man, I do not kill children, don't believe everything you hear. I love Arabs and Muslims - I think that those people are great and have an interesting culture. I love you guys.*" I thought this guy will probably keep on cursing me and calling me a liar, but to my surprise he replied back with love.

He said that he always heard bad things about Jews and Israel and was so sure that everything he heard was true. To be honest, I can't blame him. I mean, if

everyone around you would say that Israel is bad, what reason do you need to not hate Israel too? He was happy that I replied to him with love that changed his opinion about Israel. This is a little story, but with a deep conclusion.

Arabs are taught that Jews hate them, so they need to hate Jews back. What they don't know is that many Jewish people actually don't hate Arabs. We condemn terror attacks, but we don't condemn all Arabs. Next time I see another hater I'll make sure he knows I love him. :-)

[Israel Today Magazine

So, pray for this precious young man!]

מתתיהו Mattityahu

(Matthew) 9:20-22

Mattityahu (Matthew) 9.20

וְהָיְתָה אִשָּׁה שֶׁהִיָּתְתָה זָבַת דָּם שְׁתַּיִם-עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה הִתְקַרְבָּה מֵאַחֹר וְנִגְעָה בְּכַנְף בְּגָדוֹ,

A woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years approached him from behind and touched the tzitzit on his robe.

[Literally "flow of blood."

Hebrew: wing

Stern/CJB: tsitsit

What does the Greek say? Probably Matityahu originally in Heb or Aramaic, but lost.]

hēpsato	tou	kraspedou	tou	himatiou
ἥψατο	τοῦ	κρασπέδου	τοῦ	ἱματίου
touched	the	fringe	of the	garment

kráspedon – the hem (border, trim) of a garment refers to the *embroidered border* of a garment, especially with *conspicuously large tassels*.

[Why a tassel/fringe?]

Bamidbar/Nu 15.37-41 ADONI said to Moshe, "Speak to the people of Isra'el, instructing them to make, through all their generations, tzitziyot on the corners of their garments, and to put with the tzitzit on each corner a blue thread.

Tsee-tsit al kan-fay...

וְעָשׂוּ לָהֶם צִיצִית עַל-כַּנְּפֵי בְּגָדֵיהֶם,

[I spell it with ts, not tz. That is the sound of the Hebrew letter.

Singular tsitsit

Plural tsitsiyot

עַל-כַּנְּפֵי בְּגָדֵיהֶם literally: on the wings]

Bamidbar/Nu 15.37-41 It is to be a tzitzit for you to look at and thereby remember all of ADONI's mitzvot and obey them, so that you won't go around wherever your own heart and eyes lead you to prostitute yourselves; but it will help you remember and obey all my mitzvot and be holy for your God. I am ADONI your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt in order to be your God. I am ADONI your God."

So tsitsit is a reminder of

- Controlling the power of our lusts
- Remember mitsvot of Torah
- Being holy
- Adoni redeemed us from Egypt...

*[And other, ongoing redemption
So, a powerful symbolism]*

Most people don't think of Judaism as a fringe religion. Yet that's our uniform and badge of honor.



[http://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/537949/jewish/What-is-the-Tzitzit-and-Tallit.htm]

Context of Messiah life, what Messianic Judaism about. IE, here's how the Messiah's people started, and what was primarily intended.

Tsitsit 101

Maimonides (Commentary on Pirkei Avot 2:1) includes it as a major commandment along with circumcision and the Passover offering.]



[Blue and white tzitzit knotted in the Sephardi style, the all white is Ashkenazi. Note the difference between the 7-8-11-13 scheme and uninterrupted windings (between the knots) on the Ashkenazi, vs. the 10-5-6-5 scheme and ridged winding on the Sfaradi tzitzit.

Rabbinic discussion on how to tie them.]

The *tassel* (*tzitzit*) on each corner is made of four strands. These strands are then threaded and hang down, appearing to be eight... Though *many methods exist*, the one that gained the widest acceptance can be described as follows: The four strands of the tzitzit are passed through holes near the four corners of the garment (Shulchan Aruch Orach Chaim 11:9-11:15) that are farthest apart (10:1). Four tzitziyot are passed through each hole (11:12-13), and the two groups of four ends are double-knotted to each other at the edge of the garment near the hole (11:14,15). One of the four tzitzit is made longer than the others (11:4); the long end of that one is wound around the other seven ends and double-knotted; this is done repeatedly so as to make a total of five double knots separated by four sections of winding, with a total length of at least four inches, leaving free-hanging ends that are twice that long (11:14).[5]

[<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tzitzit>

Intricate and elegant, but to me a bit overwhelming]

More scripturally important than the means of tying was the command to have the blue thread.

“put with the tzitzit on each corner a blue thread.”

[Scripture not specific about knots, is about color]

- Phoenicians produced large quantities for export.
- Romans purple robes for Caesars.
- Yeshua ישוע was mockingly given one.

Around the 7th C, CE, invading Moslems destroyed the tekhelet dye industry. Killed off mullosk source.

[Kivun Magazine 2002, p. 14

http://www.flamefoundation.org/kivun.htm Tsvi Sadan]

The black of many talitot that many have had was in mourning for the loss of the tekhelet.

Blue is the color of the Israeli flag.

Some rabbis believed the Messiah could not return without the blue thread recovered.

[Kivun Mag., op cit]

According to several rabbinic sages, blue is the color of God’s Glory. Staring at this color aids in meditation, bringing us a glimpse of the “pavement of sapphire, like the very sky for purity,” which is a likeness of the Throne of God. Many items in the *Mishkan*, the portable sanctuary in the wilderness, such as the menorah, many of the vessels, and the Ark of the Covenant, were covered with blue cloth when transported from place to place.

[<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tzitzit#Tekhelet>

Blue needed for the rebuilding of the Temple. Clear prophetic event for return of Yeshua ישוע]

Rabbi Yitzhak HaLevi Herzog (1889–1959) in his doctoral thesis (London, 1913) on the subject, named *Murex trunculus* as the most likely candidate for the dye's

source. Though *M. trunculus* fulfilled many of the Talmudic criteria, Rabbi Herzog's inability to consistently obtain blue dye (sometimes the dye was purple) from the snail precluded him from declaring it to be the dye source. [<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tekhelet>]



Murex Trunculus

*[Hexaplex trunculus found on Israeli coastal plain near Tel Shikmona (6)
Found in Spain, imported back to Israel
It takes 55 lbs of these to produce 5 oz of dye.]*

According to Zvi Koren, a professor of chemistry, *tekhelet* was close in color to midnight blue. This conclusion was reached based on the chemical analysis of a 2000-year old patch of dyed fabric recovered from Masada in the 1960s. The sample, shown to have been dyed with Murex snail extraction, is a midnight blue with a purplish hue.

[<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tekhelet>]



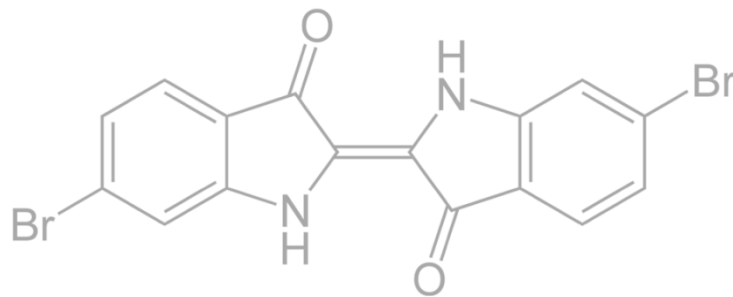
2000 year old fabric found near Masada

*[A unique and important find from the Murba'at caves in the Judean desert. A fabric dated to the second century, dyed with material obtained from the Murex trunculus sea-snail and colored blue, was shown to be of local Israelite origin.
<http://tekhelet.com>]*

Nobel Chemist Ron Hoffman, accidentally left out in the sun some wool threads dipped in the snail solution. They turned blue without the purplish hue. Tekhelet restored!

As of 1990 there has been the Ptil Techelet [Blue Thread] פתיל תכלת Organization in Israel.

[If you want to see the real secret of the tekhelet...]



Structural formula of Hexaplex (Murex) spp. based blue, the *tekhelet* indigo
[note the two bromides: in marine environments, sodium bromide is abundant, not so in terrestrial ones]

How to wear them:
tzitziyot on the corners of their garments



אֶפֹד *ephod* vest

[http://bottega.avalonceltic.com/rep_immagini/prod/tunica456.jpg

Really just a square cloth with a hole for the head. Easy to insert tsitsit. Hebrew for vest is ephod. Flack jacket also

I wore something similar on my 1998 Silver anniversary trip with my wife to Israel at First Century reenactment village.

Easy to see where tsitsiyot go

But, now we don't wear four cornered garments. So...]

Though in biblical times the tzitzit were attached to such everyday garments, both the present tallit gadol [large ceremonial] and tallit katan [daily undershirt] developed subsequently to address the fact that Jews no longer wore four-cornered garments.

Some Orthodox don't wear daily tsitsit. No corners → no tsitsit.

[<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tallit>]



Talit katan

[If you have this, you also have the decision to make if the tsitsit hang out from under your shirt visible but sloppy, or if you just have them hidden, then not visible reminders.

However, considering the prophecy:

ADONAI-Tzva'ot says, 'When that time comes, ten men will take hold - speaking all the languages of the nations - will grab hold of the tsitist of a Jew and say, "We want to go with you, because we have heard that God is with you."'" Zekh 8.23

[If I have tsitsit, and ten men are going to grab them, I would much rather they be outside my pants, than inside.]

Belt loop tsitsit?



Solves the problem of neatness, but not really on the corners either.



My conclusion:

None of the modern solutions for daily wear is perfect, so I offer liberty to anyone who wears daily tsitsit, and I expect the same liberty to be extended to me since I don't. We don't all have the answers.

[Having considered context:]

Mattityahu (Matthew) 9.20

וְהִינָה אִשָּׁה שֶׁהִיָּתְהָ זָבַת דָּם שְׁתַּיִם-עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה הִתְקַרְבָּה מֵאַחֹר וְנִגְעָה בְּכַנָּף בְּגָדוֹ,
A woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years approached him from behind and touched the tzitzit on his robe.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 9.21

כִּי אָמְרָה בְּלִבִּי 'אִם רַק אֶגַּע בְּבִגְדוֹ אֶתְרַפָּא'.

For she said to herself, "If I can only touch his robe, I will be healed."

Vayikra/Lev 15.25-27 "When a woman has a discharge of blood for many days at a time other than her monthly period or has a discharge that continues beyond her period, she will be unclean as long as she has the discharge, just as in the days of her period. Any bed she lies on while her discharge continues will be unclean, as during her period. Whoever touches them will be unclean; he must wash his clothes and bathe with water, and he will be unclean till evening.

According to the Talmud ^{Tahor.5.8}, anyone who sat in a boat with a woman in such a state was unclean.

See contrast: protacted impurity grabbing manifestation of mitzvot!

[This is NOT spiritual impurity, or even diseased/physical impurity. Are health reasons to abstain from marital relations at this time: yeast infections. It's a bit mysterious, but G-d was teaching Israel separation. The man who handled the YK goat was unclean.

She was also socially ostracized

- *Couldn't marry*
- *Reason for divorce כִּי childless if married.*

And special desperation to grab that part of clothes that epitomized purity, holiness, redemption, mitzvot:]

^{1 Shmu/Sam 15. 26-28} But Sh'mu'el said to Sha'ul, "I will not go back with you, because you have rejected the word of ADONI, and ADONI has rejected you as king over Isra'el." As Sh'mu'el was turning around to leave, he took hold of the corner [tsitsit] of his cloak, and it tore. Sh'mu'el said to him, "ADONI has torn the kingdom of Isra'el away from you today.

^{Mark 5.25-33} Among them was a woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years and had suffered a great deal under many physicians. She had spent her life savings; yet instead of improving, she had grown worse. She had heard about Yeshua, so she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his robe; for she said, "If I touch even his clothes, I will be healed." Instantly the hemorrhaging stopped, and she felt in her body that she had been healed from the disease. At the same time, Yeshua, aware that power had gone out from him, turned around

in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" His talmidim responded, "You see the people pressing in on you; and still you ask, 'Who touched me?'"
[Touched His clothes → ritual defilement, couldn't go to Temple, etc. as crowd saw it.

Yeshua ישוע knew His power greater, but needed to be declared.]

But he kept looking around to see who had done it. The woman, frightened and trembling, because she knew what had happened to her, came and fell down in front of him and told him the whole truth.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 9.22

פָּנָה יֵשׁוּעַ וַרְאָה אֹתָהּ. אָמַר לָהּ: "חֲזִקִי, בְּתוּלִי, אֶמְוִנְתִּיךְ הוֹשִׁיעָה אֹתְךָ." מֵאֹתָהּ שָׁעָה נִרְפְּאָה הָאִשָּׁה.

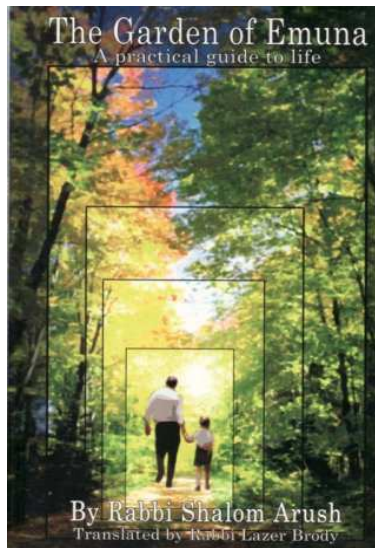
Yeshua turned, saw her and said, "Courage, daughter! Your trust has healed you." And she was instantly healed.

"Your trust has healed you."

- NOT her doctrinal beliefs:
 - Yeshua ישוע is Divine Messiah
 - G-d is our healer Psalm 103
 - Messiah is healer: "by his bruises we are healed." Yesha/Is 53.5
- By her walk and action

[Biblical faith >> intellectual assent.

Hebrew term: Emunah. I've spoken on before. Review and take to new level.]



Levels of living faith.

Emunah אֱמוּנָה

faith, trust, confidence

Active faith

[A word of disclaimer on Shalom Arush's book. His concepts and interp of scripture is EXCELLENT. Some of his illustrations are from Kabbalah, some about reincarnation. I am NOT endorsing those illustrations. Men's group remember we had to filter some things.

Why use? Marriage book that we did in Men's Group called men to a deeper level of the crucified life than Dobson, Trent, Smalley, etc. Not use that terminology.

This book calls us to an amazing level of faith. Those who remember David Dreiling, highly endorsed.]

1. Basic level Emuna: firm belief that EVERYTHING comes from Adoni by way of perfect Divine providence. No secondary causes.
2. Intermediate level: belief that everything that comes from Adoni is for the very best. All troubles have their purpose. Therefore PRAISE. Without understanding the purpose.

[Like holiness. We accept G-d goodness, and praise. this MUCH more proactive. Can change your life.

We fall before His Holiness. We praise ALL His works. ALL. Gan Emuna 21, 22 We talk about Sozo ministry, which involves finding the lies about life and G-d that we've received, renouncing, and asking G-d for revelation of truth.

This is generalized Sozo, כּ the basic lie is that life/G-d is mean, against us.

We commit to praise in everything. Even the consequences of our and others failures. Still in His hands.]

3. Upper level: Belief that our joyful task is to discern the message to us in EVERY trouble.

[Message NOT = punishment. Iyov/Job was not punished, but called to go higher. Tho He slay me, yet will I trust Him.

Torah re curses:]

Power of Joy series: whole new level of power

- Immanuel [Messiah King Yeshua ישוע] is with me in EVERY circumstance
- Immanuel is empowering me in
 - Financial distresses
 - Health problems
 - People's character weakness

Yokhanan 10.27-28 **My sheep listen to my voice, I recognize them, they follow me, and I give them eternal life. They will absolutely never be destroyed, and no one will snatch them from my hands.**

“I will take hold of Your Tsitsit [availability, comfort, strength, joy] in this situation.”

[I will carry on in YOUR strength...]

Your Faithfulness

by Brian Doerksen

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I don't know what this day will bring
Will it be disappointing, filled with longed for things?
I don't know what tomorrow holds
Still I know I can trust Your faithfulness

I don't know if these clouds mean rain
If they do, will they pour down blessing or pain?
I don't know what the future holds
Still I know I can trust Your faithfulness

Certain as the rivers reach the sea
Certain as the sunrise in the east
I can rest in your faithfulness
Surer than a mother's tender love
Surer than the stars still shine above
I can rest in your faithfulness

I don't know how or when I'll die
Will it be a thief, or will I have a chance to say goodbye?
No, I don't know how much time is left
But in the end, I will know your faithfulness
When darkness overwhelms my soul
When thoughts and storms of doubt
Still I trust You are always faithful, always faithful

Certain as the rivers reach the sea
Certain as the sunrise in the east
I can rest in your faithfulness
Surer than a mother's tender love
Surer than the stars still shine above
I can rest in your faithfulness

I don't know what this day will bring
Will it be disappointing, filled with longed for things?
I don't know what tomorrow holds
Still I know I can trust Your faithfulness