

The Doctrine of Nîdâh

1. Pronunciation and spelling: nîdâh (נִדְּאָה) [pronounced *nid-DAWH*]
2. KJV renderings: *separation, flowers, filthiness, menstruous, removed, unclean, removed woman, uncleanness*
3. BDB rendering: *impurity* (BDB #622)
4. Strong's renderings: properly *rejection*; by implication *impurity* (Strong's #5079)
5. Verbal cognate: nâdach (נָדַח) [pronounced *naw-DAHKH*] means *to drive away, to banish, to expell* (Deut. 30:4 || Sam. 14:13–14 Job 6:13 Jer. 49:5). Another possible verbal cognate is nâdad (נָדַד) [pronounced *naw-DAD*], which means *retreat, flee, depart, stray, wander, flutter*
6. Passages: Lev. 12:2, 5 15:19–20, 24–26 (6 times), 33 18:19 20:21 Num. 19:9, 13, 20–21 31:23 || Chron. 29:5 Ezra 9:11 Lam. 1:17 Ezek. 7:19–20 18:6 22:10 36:17 Zech. 13:1
7. Examination of the passages There will be a lot of overlap in these references):
 - a. Possibly associated with menstruation in Lev. 12:2, but that is more by implication than direct statement (this could be translated *at the day of her separation of her sickness of her being unclean*. The same is true for many of these passages. Ezek. 18:6 22:10 36:17 (it could be translated *impurity* as well in these passages).
 - b. Definitely associated with menstruation in Lev. 15:19, 25–26, 33
 - c. Definitely NOT association with menstruation in Num. 19:9, 13, 20–21 31:23 (in these passages it is often translated *the water of impurity* where this water washes away *impurity* or *uncleanness*) || Chron. 29:5 (translated *filth, filthiness* and what is to be removed is not specified; however, it is the result of their forefathers doing evil in the sight of Yahweh) Ezra 9:11 Lam. 1:17 Ezek. 7:19–20 Zech. 13:1
 - d. Definitely associated with *uncleanness* in Lev. 12:2, 5 15:19–20 24–26, 33 18:19 Num. 19:9, 13, 20–21 31:23 || Chron. 29:5 Ezra 9:11 Ezek. 22:10 36:17
 - e. Associated with sickness in Lev. 12:2 15:33
 - f. Things were either cleansed with fire or with the water of *impurity* (Num. 31:23)
 - g. Israel is called a land of *impurity* with the *impuritites* of the peoples of the lands in Ezra 9:11 and Jerusalem is called *unclean* (or, *impure*) in Lam. 1:17
 - h. In a national catastrophe, the gold of the Israelites is an *impure thing*. (Ezek. 7:19); what was made out of the gold became ornaments of pride; therefore, Yahweh would make those things *impure* to the Jews (Ezek. 7:20).
8. Other related words with which nîdâh is found:
 - a. Uncleanness
 - b. Sickness
 - c. Women
9. Summation:
 - a. Nîdâh is only associated with menstruation in Leviticus and a couple of the passages in Ezekiel. Therefore, in the correct context, it could at best be looked upon as a euphemism for a woman who is menstruating.
 - b. It always connotes that which is unclean or impure, if only by implication.
10. Conclusion: this nîdâh should be translated *impurity*