

This shall be the law of the metzora on the day of his purification. He shall be brought to the Kohen. (14:2)

The *Torah* commands the people to bring a *metzora* to the *Kohen*. This implies that the *metzora* is brought even by force, if necessary. The **Ibn Ezra** explains that human nature's control over a person is compelling. The moment that he is healed from his illness, he no longer senses the urgency to attain his purity. Thus, he must be brought to the *Kohen*.

Horav Mordechai Gifter, Shlita, feels that this applies to all areas of human endeavor. When the *metzora* is in pain, when he suffers various afflictions, he does anything to effect a release from his anguish. Yet, once his sickness has faded, and he has performed *teshuvah*, repentance, he is no longer as eager to complete the process to attain purity. Once the suffering is over, his attitude changes. He must now be compelled to go to the *Kohen*.

Is it any different with us? Do we pray only when it hurts, becoming lax in our attitude as soon as the circumstances have changed? Perhaps if our attitude throughout our *avodas Hashem*, service to the Almighty, would be consistent, Hashem would not need to send us "little reminders."