

Coverings of the Brain and Spinal Cord

Fanny Beerepoot

Our brain is a very fragile organ. It is covered by the cranial bones which protect it from external trauma. Covering the brain are also three layers of cranial meninges (membranes). You may see an illustration of this at the end of this study (Anatomy Coloring Workbook, 2nd Edition. I. Edward Alcamo, Ph.D.). These same meninges also cover our fragile spinal cord.

In the Tabernacle of Moses, these coverings are represented by the three colours interwoven in the inner curtain of the sanctuary, which was of fine twined linen, blue, purple and scarlet.

Exodus 26:1; *'Moreover thou shalt make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: with cherubims of cunning work shalt thou make them.'*

In the Scriptures, blue is a symbol of obedience.

Numbers 15:38-40; *'Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue: And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of YaHWaH, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring: That ye may remember and do all my commandments, and be holy unto your Elohim.'*

Scarlet represents the blood and sacrifice of Yahshua. Yahshua's blood was spilled for our remission of sins. It is interesting to note that in the Scriptures Yahshua is described as a 'worm'.

Psalm 22:6; *'But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people.'*

This Psalm talks of Yahshua's sacrifice on the Cross at Calvary. The word 'worm' mentioned in this verse is Strong's number 8438;

Towla, meaning 1) worm, scarlet stuff, crimson 1a) worm - the female 'coccus ilicis' 1b) scarlet stuff, crimson, scarlet 1b1) the dye made from the dried body of the female of the worm "coccus ilicis"

Thus the word 'worm' used to describe Yahshua's sacrifice on the Cross, is intimately linked to 'scarlet' which was made from the dried body of the worm. Thus for scarlet to come forth, both from the body of Yahshua, and the body of the worm, there must first be death.

Purple is made by mixing blue with scarlet, and thus it represents a combination of the two meanings; obedience unto death.

Philippians 2:8; *'And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross,'*

This principle was illustrated in the life of Yahshua who was clothed in a purple robe at His crucifixion. He was truly obedient unto death.

Mark 15:17-18; *'And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his head, And began to salute him, Hail, King of the Jews!'*

The three layers of the meninges are;

1. **Dura Mater** (hard mother) is a thick and dense membrane which lines the interior of the skull. It's main purpose is to provide support and protection to the brain and this is achieved by the dura mater dividing the brain into three distinct compartments.

The Dura Mater is made up of two fused layers. The outer cranial dura mater is intimately linked to the adjacent bones of the skull (Representing the Laws and Principles of YaHWaH) and contain veins and arteries that nourish these bones.

Thus the Dura Mater is represented by the blue in the curtains as obedience nourishes the principles (bones) and keeps them strong in our minds.

Between the inner dura mater and the arachnoid is a space, the subdural space, that does not contain spinal fluid.

2. **Arachnoid** (like a spider's web) is the next layer and as it's name describes, it is a delicate connective tissue which envelops the brain, lying between the pia mater and dura mater.

This layer contains no blood vessels of its own. There is a space under the arachnoid (subarachnoid space) where there is a network of bands of connective tissue (trabeculae) containing cerebrospinal fluid and blood vessels.

It is the fluid in the subarachnoid space which provides a special environment in which the brain floats, giving it a buoyancy which cushions the brain against hard blows and sudden movements. This represents the purple in the curtains, as it is the job of a king to protect his people.

3. The **Pia Mater** (tender mother), is the delicate innermost layer, which directly covers and is attached to the surface of the brain and dips down into fissures between the raised ridges of the brain.

The purpose of the pia mater is to nourish the brain tissue, hence it's name, 'tender

mother'. The pia mater is a vascular membrane and derives its blood from the internal carotid and vertebral arteries. It is by covering the entire surface of the brain with its small vessels that this membrane is enabled to provide most of the blood for the nourishment of the brain tissue.

This layer therefore represents the scarlet in the curtains as it is through the scarlet blood of Yahshua that we receive life, just as our brain is nourished with life by the blood the pia mater provides to it.

As I was studying the three layers of the meninges, I noticed that there are three septas which form part of the Dura Mater. Father gave me some thoughts on these septas which I like to share here.

In several places the meningeal dura mater extends inward to form flat septa that securely anchor the brain to the skull. The dura mater represents obedience, the brain contains the throne room of YaHWaH and the cranial bones represent the helmet of salvation. These are all linked and therefore obedience and salvation are needed to come before the throne of YaHWaH.

The three septas which form part of the dura mater are the Falx Cerebri, Falx Cerebelli and the Tentorium Cerebelli.

1. Falx Cerebri - is a sickle shaped (falx = sickle) fold that dips into the longitudinal fissure between the cerebral hemispheres and attaches to the Crista Galli of the Ethmoid Bone (representing the Altar of Incense/Prayer). See diagram of the Falx Cerebri in the diagram at the end of this study.

2. Falx Cerebelli - a small vertical sheet in the sagittal plane that forms the midline partition that runs along the vermis of the cerebellum (representing the Tree of Life). The Tree of Life was in the garden of Eden and provided immortality (coming into the full presence of Father) to Adam and Eve. This was only in effect however on a condition of obedience (dura mater). As soon as Adam and Eve disobeyed and took of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil the Tree of Life was barred from them and they lost their immortality.

Genesis 2:17; 'But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.'

Genesis 3:24; 'So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.'

So here we see that obedience and immortality are linked and as we will see a little later, the Tree of Life is also symbolic of Yahshua as it is through Him that we can return back to a state of immortality.

In my human biology text (by Elaine N. Marieb) it defines 'falx' as 'sickle'. This started me to thinking that the falx cerebri and the falx cerebelli could represent the two sickles of Revelation 14.

Revelation 14:14-20; *'And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped. And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of Elohim. And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horses bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.'*

In these verses, we see that there are two sickles just as the Dura Mater has two falx. The Falx Cerebelli is represented in the '*one like unto the Son of man having in his hand a sharp sickle*', as the cerebellum represents the Tree of Life, which is also a symbol of Yahshua, the Son of man.

John 11:25; *'Yahshua said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though her were dead, yet shall he live.*

The Falx Cerebri is represented by the angels of verse 17-18, one coming from the temple with a sharp sickle and the other from the altar (ethmoid bone represents the altar of incense/prayer) telling him to throw in the sickle.

The Dura Mater symbolises obedience. The judgement of the sickle is therefore the law. Those not in obedience and therefore not making the law an integral part of their being will be judged by it.

The Falx Cerebri attaches to the ethmoid bone which represents the altar of incense/prayer. We are to pray that we are worthy to escape the things that will come to pass and that we can stand before the Son of man.

Luke 21:36; *'Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.'*

How are we to become worthy?

Colossians 1:9-10; *'For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of*

his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of YaHWaH unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of Elohim.'

That through prayer YaHWaH may grant us knowledge of His will in all wisdom and understanding. It is interesting to note that wisdom and understanding are directly linked to the law as you can read in Proverbs 4:1-13. Therefore, by praying to Father that He may cause us to obey His law we can escape the judgement of the sickle and stand before the Son of man.

This also relates back to the functioning of the cerebellum as if we obey and ask Father to let us grow in wisdom and understanding our steps will not be hindered and we shall not stumble (a lesion in the cerebellum causes a loss of muscle tone and clumsy and disorganised movements - this will be discussed in the study on the cerebellum). As we read in Proverbs 4:11-13, it is by instructing us in wisdom and understanding that Father leads us on the right path.

3. Now we come to the third septa of the dura mater. The Tentorium Cerebelli is a nearly horizontal dural fold that extends into the transverse fissure. It forms a partition between the cerebral hemispheres (which it helps to support) and the cerebellum.

Tentorium means 'tent', hence it forms a tent over the cerebellum. It is only when our 'Tree of Life' is totally covered by the dura mater (obedience to Fathers Laws) that we can enjoy full, unrestrained communion and dwelling with Him and He within us.

It is only when we are in full submission to YaHWaH that we can truly realise what 'life' is all about as then we can partake freely of the Tree of Life. YaHWaH is life and our faith in Yahshua infuses us with YaHWaH's life - eternal life.

1 John 5:11-12; 'And this is the record, that Elohim hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of Elohim hath not life.'

This is picturing the fulfillment of the Feast of Tabernacles.

I pray these insights have been a blessing to you, dear reader, and may we all grow ever more closely into the presence of our Heavenly Father.



