

- *Throughout the period of their dedication to the LORD, the Nazirite must not go near a **dead body** ... (Numbers 6:6)*

A dead body is the translation of two Hebrew words in this verse, i.e. **soul** and the verb **to kill – to die**. The Hebrew says literally:

- *... he shall not go near a **dead soul** (or **deceased soul**).*
- *If they fail to purify themselves after touching a human **corpse**, they defile the LORD's tabernacle. ... (Numbers 19:13)*

Here too a **corpse** is the translation of the same two words in Hebrew and it says literally:

- *Anyone who touches a **dead soul** (or **deceased soul**), any person, who has died ...*

The expression '**a dead soul**' for someone who has died only appears in these two verses, both in the book of Numbers.

A theologian, who had also studied ancient Egypt, remarked in an article that this expression is typical of ancient Egypt.

For him, this was **the confirmation that Moses**, who had been brought up at the court of the Egyptian pharaoh from childhood, **was the author of the first five books** of the Old Testament.