

Is Your Walk With God Vibrant or Dry?

What Can Make a Difference?

1. Numbers 19 explains how the “water of cleansing” was to be made to purify those who had become ceremonially unclean.
2. What did it mean to be ceremonially unclean?
----It meant separation from fellowship with God and the community of God’s people.
3. This “uncleanness” could occur by touching a dead body, a person who is “unclean”, or an object that is “unclean”; or being in a house where someone recently died (to name a few).

The Cost of Becoming Clean

1. A special kind of animal (red heifer without defect) had to die, so people could be reconnected to God and His people.
2. It may take a week to become ceremonially clean again; being cleansed on the third and seventh day. Washing clothes and bathing was also required.
3. To some reading of this process today it may look inconvenient, ridiculous, or absurd; but remember this process was a **PROVISION** from God to be reconnected to Himself and His people.

4. The person helping the person become ceremonial clean also had to wash his clothes, and if he touched the water of cleansing, he became unclean until evening.

5. The uncleanness of a person could spread to those around him\her if not handled correctly. (“Anything that an unclean person touches becomes unclean, and anyone who touches it becomes unclean until evening.” 19:22)

APPLICATION

1. Just like the red heifer, the perfect Jesus Christ had to die “outside the camp” to reconnect people to God.
2. Just like the water of cleansing, the gospel is a provision to be reconnected with God, but it must be **APPLIED**.
3. Just like the uncleanness that could spread through the Israelite camp, our sin affects us and those around us too!
4. Just like the one who may become unclean in the process of helping someone else become clean; we may have to “get our hands dirty” to help others come to Christ. Not in sin, but in sacrifice!

What Functions Like the Water of Cleansing Today?

1. Jesus said to his disciples, “You are already **clean** because of the **WORD** I have spoken to you.” John 15:3
2. Ephesians 5:25-27 describes the church as being made holy by “**cleansing** her by the **washing** of water through the **WORD**.”
3. Titus 3:5 speaks of a “**washing** of rebirth and renewal by the **HOLY SPIRIT**.”
4. “How much more will the **blood** of Jesus Christ. . . **cleanse** our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!” Hebrews 9:14
5. “If we **confess** our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and **purify** us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9
6. What if we don't confess our sins? What if we don't even know what our sins are?

Application

1. The best way to cleanse our minds and hearts is by interacting with God in His **WORD**, confessing sin as God reveals it.
2. Approaching it often and humbly; reading and reflecting-- God's Spirit revealing, will scrub the sin stains clean and reconnect us to a vital relationship with God.
3. Many believers have a "dry" relationship with God because they are walking around in a "defiled state"; failing to apply the "water of cleansing" (God's word) to their lives.

How Do You Feel When You Read the Bible?

1. Why do some feel condemned while others comforted?
2. What are some bored and others invigorated?
3. Why is it confusing to some and understandable to others?
4. Why is it neglected by some and treasured by others?

How Do You Feel When You Read the Bible?

5. Why would some rather read a “good book” rather than THE GOOD BOOK?
6. The answer is that the old man\the flesh\the sinful nature responds one way to the Word; and the new man\indwelling Spirit responds a different way.
7. We create **APPETITES** in our spirit by our choices. (Examples?) We will be motivated to either satisfy the appetites of the old man or new man.
8. Which one are you living in?