

Washed Clean
I John 1:5-10 Isaiah 1:15-20
March 18, 2018

**Intro: Sometimes I feel so polluted.
You?**

1. Sin defiles us.

Isaiah 1:16-17 ***Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong.***

17 Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

- **What's the longest you've ever gone without a bath?**
- **In the old days, didn't bathe often. Handkerchief.**
- **Come in dirty wanting a hug.**

2. Defilement separates us from God.

Proverbs 6:16-19 ***There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: 17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, 18 a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, 19 a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.***

Habakkuk 1:13a ***Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrongdoing.***

- **Allergic to cats or dogs.**
- **God loves us, but our sin repulses Him.**

Psalms 24:3-4 ***Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? 4 The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.***

- **Our sins are a foul stench to God.**
- **So of course we cannot draw near to Him.**

- We cannot have a relationship with God until somehow our sins are removed.
- Our very souls are soiled and we need to be cleansed.

3. We need to be cleansed.

Psalm 51:2,7,10 ***Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin...
Cleanse me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me and I will be whiter than snow... Create in me a pure heart, O God.***

Isaiah 1:18 ***“Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow. Though they be red as crimson, they shall be as wool”***

Leviticus 16:30 ***Because on this day, atonement will be made for you to cleanse you. Then before the Lord, you will be clean from all your sins.***

4. We are cleansed by the blood of Jesus.

Hebrews 10:4 ***It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.***

Hebrews 9:14 ***How much more, then, will the blood of Christ who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God?***

Hebrews 9:28, ***Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people.***

I John 1:7 ***But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.***

- Not sure it can be described as a chemical reaction.
- It's a spiritual reality.

- It's one of the ways the Bible talks about what happened on the cross.
- Three ways of understanding the Atonement.
 - Next week: Impact on God.
 - Easter: Impact on Evil.
 - Today: Impact on us. Cleanses us.
- Christians love to sing about this marvelous truth, and we find it expressed in many of our grand old hymns.

*Just as I am and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to Him whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come.*

*There is a fountain filled with blood
drawn from Emmanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
lose all their guilty stains.*

*Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood
From Thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure;
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.*

*What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of
Jesus.
Oh, precious is the flow that makes me white as snow.
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

- In 36 years of ministry I've heard deep, dark confessions.
- Lies, Lust, Larceny, Adultery, Incest, Killing,
- Some you've never met. Some in this room.
- Some in heaven

5. Jesus cleanses Your Name from _____.

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