
GOD'S WASHROOM

EXODUS 30:17-21



Have you ever noticed how much little boys are attracted to dirt? If there's a muddy puddle, they go out of their way to jump in it. The other day I was hiking a path with my seven-year-old son. It had been raining and I spent the whole time navigating my way round the ankle-deep mud. He spent the time navigating his way into and through the mud. Thankfully this phase doesn't last forever and most boys join the rest of the human race in their mid- to late-teens.

Most of us hate getting dirty and we go to great lengths to avoid it or wash it off as soon as we can. Dirt makes us feel horrible and look horrible. That's why a bath or shower is so welcome and enjoyable, so refreshing and renewing.

But what about moral dirt? The Bible pictures sin as a dirt-problem. Do we see that? Do we feel that? Do we hate that? If so, do we want to get cleaned up? Do we want to wash our sin away? Let's see how serious this need for washing is and how God solves this problem in Exodus 30:17-21.

LEARNING

GOD PROVIDES BODY-WASHING (17-20)

Before the priests could serve God, they had to wash at a metal bath filled with water. Small taps at the base of the bath let water run out into a large shiny plate which also formed the base of the bath.

There were two main washings at this bath. The first was a one-time full body washing when priests were first ordained and installed (Ex. 29:4). The second was daily feet and hand washing (Ex. 30:19-21). God provided ample cleansing so there was no excuse for a priest to be dirty.

SIN IS LOVE FOR MUD
BUT GOD WASHES US WITH LOVE

This washes my body, but it can't wash my soul.

GOD POINTS TO SOUL-WASHING

In Exodus 38:8 we read that Moses **made the basin of bronze and its stand of bronze, from the mirrors of the ministering women who ministered in the entrance of the tent of meeting**

It looks like these godly women were giving up their focus on outward cleanliness and beauty to focus primarily on inward cleansing and beauty. They brought symbols of personal glory and dedicated them to God's glory.

Moses made the base of the bath out of these mirrors so that the priests would have mirrors to use when they were washing at the bath taps. It was nerve-wracking to be a priest. **They shall wash with water, so that they may not die. They shall wash their hands and their feet, so that they may not die** (Ex.30:20, 21). The mirror helped them to see the dirt to wash off, but when they saw their own reflection, they must have also longed for the Messiah priest who would be perfect and who didn't need such personal washing.

MIRROR, MIRROR, ON THE BASE
HELP US SEE CHRIST'S GLORIOUS FACE.

LOVING

Jesus is the Priest the mirrors pointed towards (John 17:19; Heb. 7:26-28). He is the perfect Priest. Examine him all over from every angle and you will find him flawless. He has clean hands, a pure heart and never lifted his heart to vanity (Ps. 24:3-4). He provides a one-off washing in our initial regeneration (Titus 3:5) and daily washing in sanctification (Jn. 13:10; 15:3; 1 Jn. 1:9)

LIVING

Praise God for providing Jesus Christ as our perfect priest and enjoy the refreshment of his daily soul-washing.
