

Cleansed for Service

Shalom,

The portion of Torah for this week deals with ritual impurity, or any condition that would render an individual unfit to minister in the earthly Tabernacle. Although this Mishkan, or Tabernacle, was needed before the once-for-all sacrifice of Jesus for the remission of sins, we know that God's eternal dwelling place is not a Tabernacle made with hands. He has chosen to inhabit His born-again believing people, the ones purified from their sin through trust in the shed blood of Yeshua.

I will put My Spirit inside you and cause you to live by My laws, respect My rulings and obey them. (Ezekiel 36:27 CJB)

YHWH provided a way for all believers to be cleansed, free from contamination by the world. In this Torah portion found in **Leviticus 14:1–15:33**, “**Metzora**” (**Person afflicted with Tzar’at**), as well as the last portion, instructions are given to teach God’s people to **maintain separation** from that which is “*tamei*,” or **ritually impure**. This condition, also called **uncleanness**, has to do with **contacting the realm of death**. Since we live in a fallen world, everyone encounters things that cause one to be ritually unclean. In an unclean state we are unprepared and unfit to enter the awesome presence of God. The realm of darkness and death is all around us and, by natural methods, it is impossible to maintain ourselves as “*tahor*,” or **ritually pure**, but **God, by grace has provided cleansing**. He taught in the older covenant that the way to be cleansed was to be accomplished through the shedding and application of animal blood, anointing with oil, and washing with water to restore those contaminated to a clean state. **Thank God for His marvelous grace that has provided His Way for men to dwell in His presence**, free from guilt, fleshly inferiority, and defilement. Nothing God has provided is haphazard or casual about the **absolute specifications placed to protect mankind in the mighty presence of the glory of God**.

So you are to keep Bnei-Yisrael separate from their uncleanness, so they will not die in their uncleanness by defiling My Tabernacle that is in their midst. (Leviticus 15:31 TLV)

Then I bathed you in water, washed the blood off you, and anointed you with oil. (Ezekiel 16:9 CJB)

God, Who is Love, never purposes to harm His own, which is why He precisely instructs us how to remain secure in His presence by teaching us His ways. In His love, He has

initiated and supernaturally supplied all that is needed to make us **complete** and **fit for the presence of God**.

*“Therefore, come out from among them, and **be separate**,” says Adonai. **“Touch no unclean thing**. Then I will take you in. I will be a father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters,...” says Adonai-Tzva'ot. (2 Corinthians 6:17-18 TLV)*

***Do not love the world or the things in the world**. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (1 John 2:15 TLV)*

*But if we are walking in the light, as He is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and **the blood of His Son Yeshua purifies us from all sin**. (1 John 1:7 CJB)*

*You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, Your God, has **anointed You with the oil of gladness** above Your companions. (Hebrews 1:9 TLV)*

*Husbands, love your wives, as **Christ loved the church** and gave Himself up for her, **that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word**. (Ephesians 5:25-26 ESV)*

***Set them apart for holiness by means of the truth—Your Word is truth**. (John 17:17 CJB)*

The sacrifice of Yeshua, and His shed **blood** to remit our sins, has made the way to abundant life never known or understood in times past, for the very **oil** of the anointing of the **Ruach HaKodesh, the Holy Spirit**, now dwells in our born-again spirits, and the Living Water, the Word of God, washes and **transforms those who trust into the temple of the Living God**. To live with Him inside us is described as a ritually pure and cleansed earthly Tabernacle, or, another way the Bible describes us, is as the **Body of the Messiah**. We can see by His revelation to us that **by the washing of water by His Word, a life purified by the blood of Yeshua, and anointed by His Holy Spirit, we are built up by the will and power of God to be His Dwelling Place here on this earth, and forever**.

Cleanness and uncleanness, or light and darkness, or life and death are all ways to differentiate between the realm of **God and the realm of evil**. **God desires to dwell with His people**, and to pour out blessing upon all who love Him. John 14:6 makes it clear that **His Way is the only Way, the only Truth, and the only Life**. Just as **Yeshua, the Living Word is the only way to God, that Word is His revelation to us, and He reveals it in us by the Spirit of God**.

Don't you know that you are God's temple and that the Ruach Elohim dwells among you? (1 Corinthians 3:16 TLV)

Now you together constitute the body of the Messiah, and individually you are parts of it. (1 Corinthians 12:2 CJB)

Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have boldness to enter into the Holies by the blood of Yeshua. He inaugurated a new and living way for us through the curtain—that is, His flesh. We also have a Kohen Gadol over God's household. So let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and body washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the unwavering confession of hope, for He Who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good deeds. (Hebrews 10:19-24 TLV)

Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. (1 John 3:3 TLV)

Presenting ourselves,
Terry

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