

# POWER *of the* BLOOD

## #4 “Clean & Sober”

The Vineyard Church of Conroe

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### Sermon Notes

*Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God.*

*2 Corinthians 7:1*

NLT

#### intro

#### I. Leviticus 13:9-11, 45-46 NLT - Old Testament Picture of Cleansing

<sup>9</sup> “Anyone who develops a serious skin disease must go to the priest for an examination. <sup>10</sup> If the priest finds a white swelling on the skin, and some hair on the spot has turned white, and there is an open sore in the affected area, <sup>11a</sup> it is a chronic skin disease, and the priest must pronounce the person ceremonially unclean... <sup>45</sup> “Those who suffer from a serious skin disease must tear their clothing and leave their hair uncombed. They must cover their mouth and call out, ‘Unclean! Unclean!’ <sup>46</sup> As long as the serious disease lasts, they will be ceremonially unclean. They must live in isolation in their place outside the camp.

Being Clean means \_\_\_\_\_

Being Sober EMPOWERS US TO NOT ENGAGE IN THE SIN

Being Clean & Sober ENABLES US TO RE-ENGAGE IN RELATIONSHIP

1. Cleansing IS NEEDED because SIN CONTAMINATES

2. Cleansing CLEARs OUR CONSCIENCE and Sobriety REALIGNS OUR DESIRES

3. Cleansing COMES FROM GOD’S TOUCH

*If any who are unclean do not become clean, they must be cut off from the*

community. Since they were not sprinkled with the cleansing water, they stay unclean, and they could make the LORD's Holy Tent unclean. <sup>21</sup> This is a lasting rule. Those who sprinkle the cleansing water must also wash their clothes, and anyone who touches the water will be unclean until evening. <sup>22</sup> Anything an unclean person touches becomes unclean, and whoever touches it will be unclean until evening." Numbers 19:11-22  
NCV

## **II. Hebrews 10:1-10 NLT - New Testament Interpretation of Cleansing**

<sup>1</sup> The old system under the law of Moses was only a shadow, a dim preview of the good things to come, not the good things themselves... <sup>2</sup> If they could have provided perfect cleansing, the sacrifices would have stopped, for the worshipers would have been purified once for all time, and their feelings of guilt would have disappeared. <sup>3</sup> But instead, those sacrifices actually reminded them of their sins year after year. <sup>4</sup> For it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins... <sup>10</sup> For God's will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time.

### **Cleansing stops the spread of sin and deals with the root cause.**

<sup>16</sup> So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. <sup>17</sup> The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions... <sup>22</sup> But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! <sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. <sup>25</sup> Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Galatians 5:16-25 NLT

## **III. Mark 1:40-44 NKJV - How Can We Receive Cleansing?**

<sup>40</sup> Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, "If You are willing, You can make me clean." <sup>41</sup> Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out *His* hand and touched him, and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed." <sup>42</sup> As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed. <sup>43</sup> And He strictly warned him and sent him away at once, <sup>44</sup> and said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but

go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing those things which Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

## **The Touch of God is what MAKES US CLEAN**

*And when sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices. <sup>19</sup> And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. <sup>20</sup> By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. <sup>21</sup> And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, <sup>22</sup> let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water. Hebrews 10:18-22 NLT*