

## Lesson Four: What God Requires of Those Who Serve Him (The Laver)

Text: Exodus 30:17-21 "And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 18 Thou shalt also make a laver of brass, and his foot also of brass, to wash withal: and thou shalt put it between the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar, and thou shalt put water therein. 19 For Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet thereat: 20 When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water, that they die not; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD: 21 So they shall wash their hands and their feet, that they die not: and it shall be a statute for ever to them, even to him and to his seed throughout their generations." Exodus 38:8 "And he made the laver of brass, and the foot of it of brass, of the looking glasses of the women assembling, which assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation."

Introduction:

I. The Position of the Laver - Exodus 30:18 "Thou shalt also make a laver of brass, and his foot also of brass, to wash withal: and thou shalt put it **between the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar**, and thou shalt put water therein."

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

II. The Procedure of The Laver - Exodus 30:19-20 "For Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet thereat: 20 When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water, that they die not; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD:"

A. What solemn warning did give to those who would serve Him?

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B. Who are God's priests today? 1 Peter 2:5 "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

1 Peter 2:9 "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:"

C. What unmistakable truth is taught by the procedure of the laver?

### III. The Purpose of the Laver -

A. How are we to cleanse ourselves for service unto the Lord? John 15:3 "Now ye are **clean through the word** which I have spoken unto you."

Ephesians 5:25-27 "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the **washing of water by the word**, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."

B. When we examine ourselves in the light of God's Word, what will we find? Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

C. The Laver was made of mirrors. How does James 1:22-24 relate to that fact? James 1:22-24 "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was."

D. What promise is given to those who make application of the Word and are cleansed thereby? James 1:25 "But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

Conclusion: The Laver teaches that God's people must not only be cleansed from the open vices of the flesh which even the world would condemn, but also the hidden sins of the heart , such as anger, bitterness, envy, pride, greed, etc.