

09 – Numbers 19 – Cleansing

Cleansing instructions given here are not due to their dirt or smell or even the germs caused by death of a fellow human.

The story (of Numbers) so far

...part of God's big story of redemption and blessing.

Gen 3:15 ... 'crush the serpent's head'

Gen 12:1-3, ... God promised Abraham

“shows God's grace in patiently sustaining his grumbling people in the wilderness and bringing them to the border of the promised land, not because of them but in spite of them”

The need to be cleansed

... away from the fellowship with God.

v 1-10 ... how to make the cleansing water.

... uncleanness spreads and it contaminates everything it touches

v11-22 - how are they to use this in the cleansing water?

V 11... touches a human corpse will be unclean...

... how does death of a human make us unclean before God?

... death enters the world through sin.

Romans 6:23... “the wages of sin is death”.

Hebrews 9:22... without the shedding of blood there is NO forgiveness”.

... death = a clear reminder that people are all contaminated by sin.

Not just clean on the outside

Hebrews 9:13-14, The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. 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!

... the blood of Jesus cleansed the 'inner person'

Romans 6:23 “The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

For us today**1) Sin infects everything**

... gets into and defiles every part of our lives and it needs to be cleansed if we are ever going to have any hope before God.

Do you see that our sin defiles us before our holy God?

2) From death to redemption

Hebrews 9:12 ... Jesus' blood shed for us on the cross brings not just outward cleansing but inner cleansing... and thus it brings us eternal redemption.

... v 13 he cleanses us from acts that lead to death... and wins for us eternal redemption.

... great assurance and joy

3) Saved to serve

Hebrews 9:14 ... so that we can serve him.

- **Do you see your salvation as freeing you up to serve God?**
- **How are you serving God**

My one thing