

The Word of God Cleanses Us

Introduction

In our last lesson we learned that the Word of God is the source of true happiness, in this lesson we learn that the Word of God has the power to cleanse us from sin, keep us from sin and can claim us from this world.

9. Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

- A '*young man*' is mentioned here, because it is in our youth when carnal lusts are the **strongest** and our path in life has yet to be chosen.
- The Word of God '*cleanses*' by **separating** us from this world and all of its uncleanness.
- The Word also '*cleanses*' us by bringing us into the **will** of God.
- However much people may pride themselves on their own works and good deeds, there is nothing clean in their life until they have made a complete **surrender** of themselves to the Word of the Lord.

10. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

- Even though the writer claims that he sought God with his '*whole heart*', he still asks God for **help** in living the Christian life.
- The more we enjoy keeping God's commandments the more **afraid** we shall be of wandering from them and the more earnest we shall pray to God for his grace to prevent our wanderings. - M.Henry

11. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

- When the Word of God is memorized and internalized, it becomes the directive for our **lives**.
- When the Word of God is '*hid in mine heart*' (laid up) it will be ready to **use** whenever the occasion comes to use it.
- God's Word is a **treasure** worth laying up, and there is no laying it up safely but in our hearts; if we have it only in our houses and hands, enemies may take it from us; if in our heads, our memories may fail us. - M.Henry

12. Blessed art thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.

- As the writer of Psalms 119 continues to focus on the holiness of God, praise naturally begins **come** out.
- Praising God is the Christians highest **duty** and is also a great privilege.
- 'teach me' - It is a wonderful honor to have **God** for your teacher.
- Man's teaching puffs up - God's teaching humbles. Man's teaching may make us more learned - God's teaching makes us more **holy**. - Bridges

13. With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.

- The writer makes the statement that he has openly and publicly made the Words of God verbally **known** to others.
- 'thy mouth' - The Law of God literally comes from God's **mouth**.
- The words that come out of the mouth of God, should be coming out of the mouth of every **Christian**.

14. I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches.

- Just as people rejoice who have great wealth, the Christian should find their happiness in **walking** 'in the way' of holiness.
- Finding the narrow way of the **cross** is more valuable than riches.
- If we are poor in this world, it is the Lord's providence. If we are poor in grace, it is our own **fault**. - Bridges

15. I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.

- When you have a delight for God's Word, it will constantly be on your **mind**.
- To some men meditation is a task; to the man of cleansed way it is a **joy**.
- C. Spurgeon
- 'respect' - means reverence, high esteem, love, gratitude.

16. I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.

- Obeying God's 'statutes' is not a **burden**, but a 'delight'.
- We must never forget what God has done for us, and we must never forget what God **promised** he will do.

The writer asked a question that troubles us all: How do we stay pure in a contaminating environment? We cannot do this on our own but must have counsel and strength more dynamic than the tempting influences around us. Where can we find that strength and wisdom? By reading God's Word and doing what it says.

Life Application Bible