

THE TABERNACLE #4

THE LAVER

Exodus 30:17-21

INTRO: Israelites traveling from Egypt to Promise Land. – 40 years!
Each piece of furniture speaks of some New Testament Truth!

Altar - Christ our sacrifice

Laver – Our Sanctification

Laver – "A place to wash" (Lavatory)

I. The Material of the Laver (Exodus 30:18) (Exodus 27:3)

A. Brass – Speaks of judgment

1. Brass/Brazen – Same Greek word: "e@chosheth"

B. Source of this special brass

1. Exodus 38:8

2. Ladies' "looking glass." - Today, ladies use mirrors. No mirrors in that day.

a. Gave them willingly – They were highly polished

C. A "symbol" of the Word of God – James 1:22-24

1. Mirror - Reveals our sin

2. Brass – Under judgment.

3. Water – The word "Word" in the Bible means "washes"

a. Exodus 30:18 – "thou shalt put water therein.

b. Ephesians 5:26 "...washing of the water by the Word."

c. John 15:3 "...now ye are made clean through the Word..."

D. Speaks of, "**Christ our sanctification.**"

1. Sanctification – Not by our ideas or fancies.

1. Hebrews 13:12 – by His blood – shed for us.

II. The Location of the Laver (Exodus 30:18)

A. After the Altar of Sacrifice – and – Before the entrance of the Holy Place

1. The Holy Place was the place of Service (Exodus 39:1)

a. Priest HAD to go "by the Laver" before entering the Holy Place to serve.

b. Priest had to wash DAILY before serving

2. If the priest went into the Holy Place without washing – What happened?

a. Exodus 30:20 - He DIED

b. Exodus 30:21 - He DIED – **Extremely IMPORTANT!**

3. Christians are saved at the Cross (Altar).

a. Salvation is not the "end" but the beginning

1. Christians are EXPECTED to serve (I Corinthians 12:7, 11, 18)

b. **Christians need "daily cleaning."**

c. Called "progressive sanctification."

III. The Method of using the Laver (Exodus 30:18).

A. Step One: (The Priest's entire body had to be washed)

1. The Priest had to be washed all over (Exodus 29:1-4) (See vs 4)

a. This was a "once-a-year" event.

2. The priest had his "hand and feet" washed daily in order to serve.

a. **If he did not wash his hands and feet – he died!**

B. WHY? - The Priest was walking on the dirt floor – NO SHOES!

1. Tabernacle was a beautiful building – but it had no floor! (Priest walked on dirt)

2. There was no chair in the Tabernacle – No place to sit and rest

3. He handled "dirty things."

4. Before he could serve – He MUST wash!
- C. The Picture of the New Testament believer
 1. Christians come to the Cross and receive Christ.
 2. They are "washed all over." – One time only
 3. We live in a "dirty world."
 - a. We walk in filth every day.
 - b. We see filth every day.
 4. We must wash our "hands and feet" daily.
 - a. This is the "responsibility" of the believer.
 - b. Come to the Laver and wash every day.
- D. Example: [John 13:1-10](#)
 1. We do not practice "foot washing."

(Useless – everyone should wash their feet before coming to church!)
 2. The picture – Jesus washed the FEET of the disciples
- E. Following Christ's example ([Verse 15](#))
 1. I forgive you
 2. You forgive me
 - a. [Ephesians 4:32](#) "...forgiving one another..."

IV. Results of washing hands and feet.

- A. If the priest washed – he ministered "life" to the people
- B. If the priest did not wash – he ministered "death."
 1. I would not come to this class to teach – without washing!

New Testament Priest and Service

1. If you and I come for service "washed" – we ministered "life."
2. If we do not come "washed" for service – we ministered "death."
 - a. Spiritual death:

If one preaches "unwashed" the message will be like death

If one teaches "unwashed" the lesson will be like death

If one sings "unwashed" the song will be like death.
3. Unwashed servants – **bring death to the church.**

V. The Measurements of the Laver

- A. Five of the seven pieces of furniture have measurements.
- B. The Laver has no measurements – of any type!
 1. No height – no depth – no diameter – no circumference!

(Round – No Measurements – No Borders)

**THIS ILLUSTRATES THAT
THE FORGIVENESS AND CLEANSING FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS
HAS NO LIMITS - NO BOUNDRIES – NO CONDITIONS!**

[I John 1:9](#)

C. Not a license to sin!

1. The Doctrine of Antinomianism! **(See attachment)**

OUR PART

D. [Matthew 18:21](#), "How many times should I forgive my brother?"

1. Jesus said, **"Seventy-times seven!?"**
 - a. [Ephesians 4:1-3](#) – longsuffering – **forbearing** one another in love
 - b. [Ephesians 4:32](#) "kind – tender hearted – **forgiving!**"

The Doctrine of Antinomianism?"

The word *antinomianism* comes from two Greek words, *anti*, meaning "against"; and *nomos*, meaning "law." *Antinomianism* means "against the law." Theologically, antinomianism is the belief that there are no moral laws God expects Christians to obey. Antinomianism takes a biblical teaching to an unbiblical conclusion. The **Biblical teaching** is that Christians are not required to observe the Old Testament Law as a means of salvation. When Jesus Christ died on the cross, He fulfilled the Old Testament Law (Romans 10:4; Galatians 3:23-25; Ephesians 2:15). The **unbiblical teaching** is that there is no moral law God expects Christians to obey.

The apostle Paul dealt with the issue of antinomianism in Romans 6:1-2, "*What shall we say then, Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*" The most frequent attack on the doctrine of salvation by grace alone is that it encourages sin. People may wonder, "If I am saved by grace and all my sins are forgiven, why not sin all I want?" That thinking is not the result of true conversion because true conversion yields a greater desire to obey, not a lesser one. God's desire—and our desire when we are regenerated by His Spirit—is that we strive not to sin. Out of thanksgiving for His grace and forgiveness, we want to please Him. God has given us His infinitely gracious gift in salvation through Jesus (John 3:16; Romans 5:8). Our response is to consecrate our lives to Him out of love, worship, and gratitude for what He has done for us (Romans 12:1-2). **Antinomianism is unbiblical in that it misapplies the meaning of God's gracious favor.**

A second reason that antinomianism is unbiblical is that there is a moral law God expects us to obey. 1 John 5:3 tells us, "*For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*" (Matthew 22:37-40). No, we are not under the Old Testament Law. Yes, we are under the law of Christ. The law of Christ is not an extensive list of legal codes. It is a law of love. If we love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, we will do nothing to displease Him. If we love our neighbors as ourselves, we will do nothing to harm them. Obeying the law of Christ is not a requirement to earn or maintain salvation. The law of Christ is what God expects of a Christian.

Antinomianism is contrary to everything the Bible teaches. God expects us to live a life of morality, integrity, and love. Jesus Christ freed us from the burdensome commands of the Old Testament Law, but that is not a license to sin, but rather a covenant of grace. We are to strive to overcome sin and live righteously, depending on the Holy Spirit to help us. The fact that we are graciously freed from the demands of the Old Testament Law should result in our living our lives in obedience to the law of Christ. 1 John 2:3-6 declares, "*And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.*"