

PURIFIED SOULS

1Pet 1:22- 2:2

INTRODUCTION:

- A. We hear quite frequently of some cities that have problems with their water supply being unsafe to drink.
- B. The residents have, in some cases, had to boil their water before drinking it.
- C. In most eating establishments the dishes and eating utensils are sterilized
- D. Food and Drug administration regulates processed food and drugs to make sure they are safe and not contaminated
- E. In our society today we are probably more concerned about purification than at any other time in history .
- F. However, 1Pet 1:22-2:2 points to a purification process that is in greater need than any other - The Purifying of the souls of men.

DISCUSSION:

I. THE NEED FOR PURIFICATION OF THE SOUL

- A. Most conscientious people are already aware of sin and their own need for salvation.
- B. The Scriptures bear out this need.
 - 1. Sins separate from God Isa 59:2
 - 2. All have sinned Rom 3:23
 - 3. Both Jew and Gentile under sin Rom 3:9

II. TWO SIDES OF THE PROCESS OF PURIFICATION.

- A. God provides the means of purification
 - 1. His Love for man Jhn 3:16
 - 2. His Son whose blood makes purification possible Jhn 14:6; Heb 9:13,14; Rom 5:8,9
 - 3. The Gospel the formula for applying the purifying blood to men Rom 1:16,17; 1Pet 1:24,25
 - 4. All these factors are embraced in the expression "The Truth" which man obeys 1Pet 1:22 .
 - 5. All of this (God's Side) has been completed and is available to every man Mk 16:15,16; Tit 2:11; Rom 1:16
- B. Man's Side - Obeying The Truth - to be purified
 - 1. He is the saviour of those who obey Him Heb 5:8,9
 - 2. This obedience to the Truth includes
 - a. Faith in Christ Heb 11:6; Acts 15:9
 - b. Repentance of sins Lk 13:3; Acts 17:30
 - c. Confessing Christ Matt 10:32,33; Rom 10:10
 - d. Baptism for remission of sins Mk 16:16; 1Pet 3:21
 - 3. This obedience must be voluntary and from the heart Rom 6:17,18

- C. This process is called a New Birth (being born again) 1Pet 1:23
 - 1. Much of the mystery and confusion surrounding the new birth ought not to be at all. God has given us clearcut examples to see what He means
 - 2. The Corinthians were born again 1Cor 4:15
 - a. They heard & believed the gospel and were baptized, Acts 18:8
 - b. We conclude then that being "born again" is a term applied to hearing believing and being baptized at Christ's command
 - c. Arising from baptism one is said to "walk a new life" Rom 6:3,4 "To be a new creature" 2Cor 5:17 both are results of a birth - hence becoming pure

III. WHAT FOLLOWS PURIFICATION

- A. All of us are aware that food, drink, drugs, bandages; etc., once purified may not always remain pure - may become contaminated
- B. So with Christians - once purified they can become vilely impure Again 2Pet 2:20-22; 1Jhn 2:1,2
- C. The best insurance against such a possibility is that the product or In the case in point, the person be put immediately and continuously to its intended use
- D. Once something that has been pure has become impure it must be purified again 1Jhn 2:1,2
- E. Peter suggest these activities to keep us pure
 - 1. A constant war against personal sins 1Pet 2:1,11
 - 2. A vigorous program of study and growth 1Pet 2:2; 2Pet 1:5-10
 - 3. An unfeigned. (without hypocrisy) love of brethren 1Pet 1:22
 - 4. Active support of church as a living stone in its walls 1Pet 2:5
 - 5. Soulful worship as a priest of God 1Pet 2:5

CONCLUSION:

- A. We are all very careful to protect ourselves from contaminated food, drink or medicine
- B. How concerned are we about purifying our souls and keeping them from being contaminated (contaminates are all around us)
- C. God's part is complete, He pleads with you to complete your part - by being born again or as the case may be maintaining your purity after you have once been purified or possibly "re-purifying" yourself