



Holiness vs Unclean

Who Wins?

BY PASTOR TOM COX

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unclean

vs



clean

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**MATTHEW 8:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. <sup>2</sup> A man with leprosy<sup>[a]</sup> came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

<sup>3</sup> Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy. <sup>4</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "See that you don't tell anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

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## *“Context is King”*

### **Matthew 4:23**

*Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.*

1. Sermon on the mount is the constitution of the Kingdom
2. Exploring and explaining what it means to be a disciple
3. What it means to enter into the life of the KINGDOM.

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### **MATTHEW 8:2**

*A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”*

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### **MATTHEW 8:3**

*Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy.*

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# Simple Story

## ...Simple Test

1. Is Jesus....a good guy?  
*Or bad guy?*
2. Is Jesus....Compassionate?  
*Or couldn't care less?*
3. Is Jesus...capable of healing?  
*Or not capable of healing?*
4. Is Jesus....selfish?  
*Or cares for the less fortunate?*

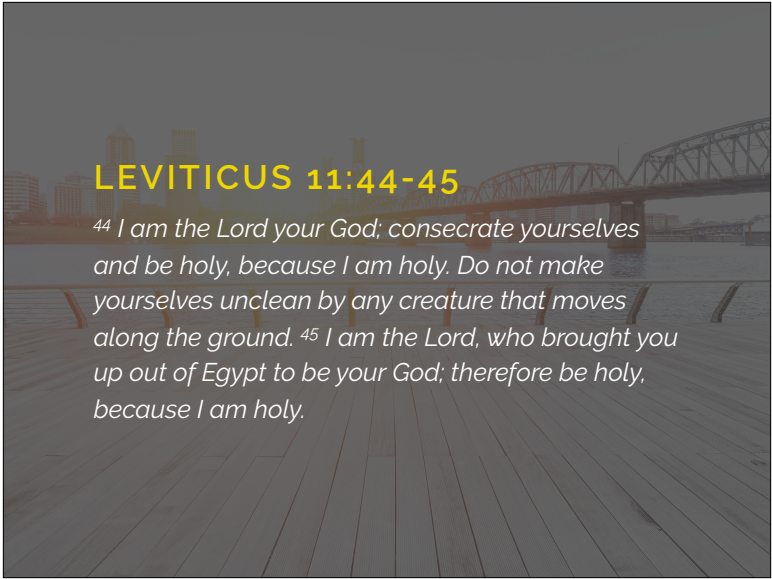
### MATTHEW 8:2

*A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me **clean**."*



*Why does this man say  
**clean** and not **heal**?*





**LEVITICUS 11:44-45**

*44 I am the Lord your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy. Do not make yourselves unclean by any creature that moves along the ground. 45 I am the Lord, who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy.*

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Holiness **vs** Unclean

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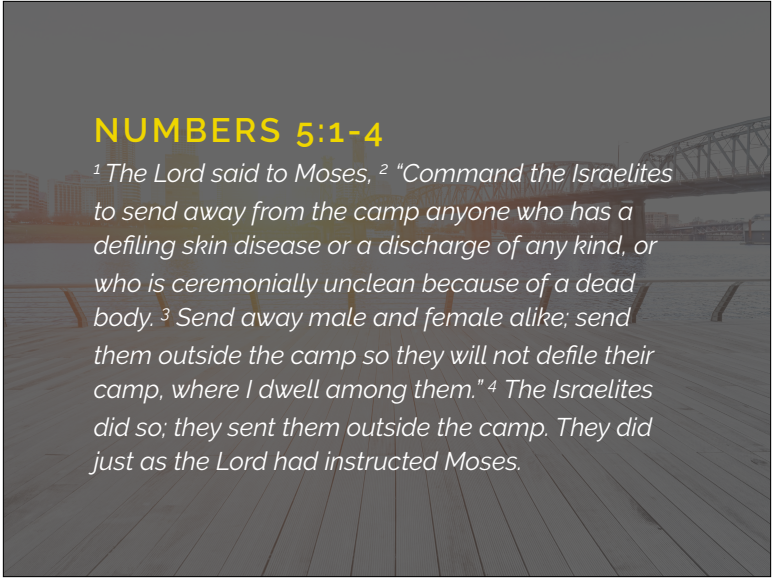
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**NUMBERS 5:1-4**

*1 The Lord said to Moses, 2 "Command the Israelites to send away from the camp anyone who has a defiling skin disease or a discharge of any kind, or who is ceremonially unclean because of a dead body. 3 Send away male and female alike; send them outside the camp so they will not defile their camp, where I dwell among them." 4 The Israelites did so; they sent them outside the camp. They did just as the Lord had instructed Moses.*

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### 3 ways to become unclean

1. Skin disease
2. Discharge
3. Touching a dead body

#### ISAIAH 6:1-4

<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. <sup>3</sup> And they were calling to one another:

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty;  
the whole earth is full of his glory."

<sup>4</sup> At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

#### ISAIAH 6:5-7

<sup>5</sup> "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty."

<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar.

<sup>7</sup> With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."



"The story of the Gospel is a boldness that God is not threatened or intimidated by your sin..God moves toward sin with such passion and intensity that Isaiah felt forced to own it, confess it and name it, and therefore he is transformed by it."

TIM MACKIE

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AND THE WINNER IS...  
**Holiness**

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