

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