

Full Sermon Transcript: Cleanliness is Next to Godliness

August 15, 2025

Disclaimer: This transcript is computer-generated and may have mistakes or inaccuracies. Though for the most part, the software does a really good job.

Let's go in prayer. Lord, Heavenly Father, praise your holy name. Jesus, thank you for getting us through last week, through this week, thus far this month, thus far this year, and you are faithful to see us through all the way.

Thank you for your love and mercy and grace. Thank you for your commandments, your law, and your ways and your requirements.

Thank you that you expect a lot from us, that you have entrusted us with a very high calling and very special work to do in this very special time that we were born for such a time as this.

Thank you for choosing us. Thank you Father, you have already confirmed today's sermon very powerfully.

Thank you for the miracle that occurred yesterday with the lizard. Let me not forget to testify about it.

Let me not forget to testify of today's miracle that confirms the sermon. Help me to always lift up my voice to praise you, to glorify you, to share with the world your goodness and your power and your holy name.

Father, we accept your anointing on today's services and this message, and this message will not return to your void nor vain, but will accomplish the purpose in which forth it is sent for more than one person, for multiple people, in the edification of the entire church and to your glory in Jesus' holy name.

And the congregation said amen. You may be seated.

Okay. Let's start in 1st Timothy 5 verse 14. For people that might be listening for the first time, we're reading from the Alpha Bible, the Alpha and Omega Bible, a restoration of the scriptures using much older manuscripts than what was used for the King James Version.

1st Timothy 5 verse 14. Talking to Paul is writing Timothy, and he's talking about the women.

He says, therefore I want the younger widows to get married, bear children, have children, keep house, and give the enemy no occasion for reproach.

That word reproach, actually the phrase for reproach, those two words, we're going to cross out because most people don't understand what that means, and it can actually be translated different ways.

So we're going to change that to four words, to speak against you, that the enemy will have no occasion to speak against you.

A lot of people have the mentality that you should never care, ever, ever care about what other people think about you. There's some truth to it, but not that extreme, when it's never, ever, care what people think about you, what people say about you, because God does want us to be good examples, and that he does want us to be people that people look up to, that people admire, that people respect.

Your name, that is your reputation. Your reputation is important to God, and your reputation should be important to you, what people think about you.

Now the truth of that mentality, not caring about what people think of you, some truth to it, in that we're going to serve God in the real truth, even though people hate us for it, right?

And in that sense, we don't care what they think about us, or what they say about us, because we are committed to serving God in the truth, because that is the most important thing.

And some other things we can throw in there too, that there's truth about, but to never care what people say about us, or think about us, would be going too far, because we do want a good reputation in the community, that we're decent people, that we're good people. Amen.

So if they were to say something about us, let it either be the truth, or let it be false accusations.

But if it be the truth, let it be about good things. Amen. Paul is telling Timothy that the women should keep their house, be good women, be good wives, be good mothers.

The word keep house here can refer to keeping the house clean, teaching the children, keeping the children under control instead of wowed, maintaining the house appropriately, the house being on both physical things in the house, the house itself, and the children, and the husband as well.

Everyone in the house, everything dealing with the house, to keep it up, to keep it maintained, to take care of the

husband, take care of the children, and take care of the house cleaning, the clothing, the laundry, the pets, the farm, the garden, everything that needs to be done on the property.

This is the good thing, so that people would not speak evil against us, to speak against us.

That's important. Amen.

Today's topic, the title is cleanliness is next to godliness. Now that particular phrase, cleanliness is next to godliness, is not found in the Bible.

But it's a very well-known problem, a very well-known sin that it's not in the Bible.

But nevertheless, throughout the Bible, you do find that principle, that spiritual principle, even though you don't find that particular specific phrase, you find that principle of being clean spiritually and physically, and they are connected, spiritual and physical connections, connection to that ideal of being clean, that the blood of Jesus washes us as white as snow.

He washes our sins away. Our sins represent uncleanness, impurity. So that concept is throughout scripture, from Old Testament to New Testament, that concept and that.

God does care about how we keep house, about how we manage our surroundings, our bodies, our clothing, our beds, our floors, our walls, our toilets, our sink, our dishes, our property, our grass, our trees, our weeds, our garden, everything that God has given to us.

He wants us to take care of it appropriately and correctly. Everything belongs to God and He's allowing us to manage it.

We really don't own it, the property that God has given us the property to manage. Amen.

Whatever God gives us, we should manage correctly, appropriately, responsibly, appropriately, responsibly, maturely. Amen.

Stewardship, taking care of it. The whole world belongs to God. We are stewards, husband and caretakers, caregivers of God's property.

Let's look at Leviticus 15 verse 24.

And if anyone shall lie with her, have sex with her, and her uncleanness be upon him, let's talk about her period, her administration, her blood, he should be unclean seven days, and every bed in which he shall have reign on should be unclean as well.

And if a woman have a discharge of blood many days, not in that time of her separation, the blood also should flow from her separation to be uncleanness.

So, God is so concerned about us, our hygiene and sanitation that he even lays it out as a law. Amen.

Not a suggestion, but a law that in that day and time was very strict. You didn't have a washing machine, you had to scrub everything out by hand, you didn't have tide detergent, you didn't have bleach.

So, it was even more important in that day and time. They didn't even know about bacteria and viruses as far as we know.

Maybe they did, but we typically are told that they didn't know about it. They didn't understand it if they did know about it.

So, it's very important to be clean about our bodies so much that God even commanded it. Amen.

It is important being clean is important to God because our health is directly related to keeping our bodies and our houses clean, our health.

And our health is the temple of God. And our bodies, even though we're being brainwashed all of our lives to think our bodies are spiritually filthy, nasty, impure, sinful, nothing but evil.

It's why people are brainwashed by false religion to think. But the reality according to the holy Bible is that our bodies are holy, that our bodies are the temple of God.

Do you think God wants to live in a dirty temple? Absolutely not. God is just like anybody that he wants to feel good and decent when he visits a place or when he lives in a place.

When he walks within a place that he, even in the Bible, it says that when I walk in your camp, you got to go to the bathroom, dig a hole, poop in that hole, and cover it up so I don't step in it.

And that's actually in the Bible. God doesn't want to step in your filthiness, in your poop. Amen.

That's very interesting because that he's not even walking around in the flesh, but yet he still doesn't want to walk in your poop.

We don't understand that the spirit and the flesh are extremely much more connected, and the spirit is not nonexistent.

Just because we can't see it doesn't mean it's nonexistent. The spirit world is just as real as the physical world. The spirit can move a chair. The spiritual realm is actually made of atoms, particles, molecules. It's real. It's much more real than what people imagine. Sanitation, cleanliness, honor, and respect. That word honor, people don't have.

People have no honor these days, but you should have honor for certain other people, and also honor for yourself, and honor for God.

That word honor, you never even hear it anymore because it's no longer important to today's society, and people are not taught honor from childhood anymore, but it used to be a very important word in that.

We could go through many different examples throughout Scripture. We'll look at just one or two more.

Numbers 19 verse 20. And whatever man should be defiled and should not purify himself, that soul should be cut off from the midst of the congregation because he has defiled the holy things of Jesus, because the water of sprinkling has not been sprinkled upon him.

He is unclean. Throughout Scripture, we see a symbolic connection between the spiritual realm and the physical realm, dealing with purity and uncleanness, and God was telling the people, you've got to worship your body, you've got to worship yourself.

Even if you're spiritually unclean, they would do that. They would take baths and extra baptism to spiritually clean themselves when they were physically diseased.

Old Testament people, even New Testament people, were still under that mentality during the writing of the Bible, all these holy scrolls, these holy scriptures, the mentality maintained for thousands of years, not in only Old Testament times but even into the times of Paul and the New Covenant Church.

That mentality of a physical, of a connection between the physical realm and the spiritual connection of uncleanness and washing yourselves and bathing, bathing, even as the blood of Jesus washes, washes away our sins.

I think it's very easy to understand all this.

Let's look at the book of James, chapter 4, verse 8. Come near to Theos, and he will come near to you.

Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Amen.

It's not saying wash your hands, but it does use that terminology to talk about be spiritually clean.

It uses the physical analogy, physical symbolism of physical cleanness to teach a spiritual cleanness.

So if physical cleanness was not next to godliness, then it would not say this. It's very clear that the principle of cleanliness is next to godliness, even though not written in those exact terms.

That principle is nevertheless extremely true and important to God.

Let's look at Matthew, chapter 5, verse 13. You are the salt of the earth, but the salt has become tasteless.

How can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything except to be cast out and trampled underfoot by people.

God says that we are the salt of the earth. The thing about salt is that it cleanses, it purifies, it disinfects, it kills germs, and germs and bacteria and viruses cannot live in salt.

They can't, because salt is a purifier. If we are the salt of the earth, if we are the salt spiritually, then how pure should we become? Amen.

Verse 14, you are the light of the world. A seed is set on a hill, cannot be hidden. Nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to all that are in the house.

Let your light shine before people in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father, which is in heaven. Amen.

Now we do know that another place in the Bible does say to not do your good works to be seen for that purpose out of pride, but we have to balance that because this verse does say, don't hide your good works.

So which is true? They're both true, but the thing is the mentality, the purpose of both.

So if we help a poor person, we don't have to go shouting it, bragging about it, bragging about it in church, bragging about it around the neighborhood or to family or to friends, we can keep it secret.

But at the same time, we should be doing some good works that are visible, that are visible to the public, to our family, to our friends, to people we live with, to people that surround us.

There should be some things that are clear, that are obvious, that we're doing good works in which we don't have to hide it, in which we're not bragging about it, but neither are we hiding it either at the same time. Amen.

But if we are a light that should not be hidden, that makes me think of if our house is dirty and somebody comes to our house, are we going to kick things under the bed, kick things under the couch, throw something in the closet real quick because it's dirty, throw a blanket over our dirty dishes, whatever, to hide our filth?

Or do we not care what people think about us? Are we that complacent that we would not hide such filth?

Or are we going to maintain a clean house so that when people show up unexpectedly that we don't have to be embarrassed, don't need to be embarrassed, we should care about such matters and not have to hide filth.

And it's not just the woman of the house in 1st Timothy 5, but rather everybody in the house sharing and duties and responsibilities, cleaning up after themselves, maintaining the house, maintaining the property, men helping out with the grass, the trash, repairs, other things, men knowing to clean up after themselves as well, children, both male and female, knowing how to clean up after themselves, people taking turns washing dishes, things like this, not leaving the counter dirty or the table dirty when we walk away from it, wiping it up as we go, everybody in the house sharing a portion of responsibility, everyone in the house learning and practicing responsibility.

And it's even more so true the fewer the people. Amen? If we're all by ourselves, we have nobody to help us, we still got to do it.

We shouldn't become lazy or complacent just because we're living by ourselves because there's still going to be a knock on the door, a visitor, a family member, a friend, an evangelist, a salesman, an inspector, a landlord, someone sooner or later.

And if we have the mentality where nobody's going to ever come visit me or see me and therefore you just allow the house to become nasty as can be, you're going to catch a cold more often, flu more often, whatever, the paint is going to be horrible in the house, the baseboards, the floor is going to be nasty.

You could even catch Alzheimer's or cancer even though you're not getting, you may think your immune system is strong, you're not catching a cold every month, you're not catching a cold three or four times a year, but yet, living a whole life, but yet, living a whole life of nastiness, very likely that you would absolutely come down with cancer or Alzheimer's or dementia or Parkinson's or something like that from living long term.

They just discovered that the cause of MS, just read a few days ago, that for the first time in all of human history, they discovered what causes multiple sclerosis is a virus or bacteria, whichever one it was.

Some of the stomach ulcers sometimes can be bacteria and viruses, cancer sometimes can be a virus.

So it's not just catching a cold, but rather very deadly things that come from a life, from generations, I mean from decades of filth.

Sanitation, purity, spiritual and physical connection, just whether or not we're lazy, whether or not we're complacent is important to die because it's not limited to the physical realm or the spiritual realm.

If you're lazy and complacent in one of those realms, you will be also in the other realm, absolutely.

If you're lazy and complacent in the physical things, you will also be lazy and complacent in the spiritual things and vice versa because that's the type of person you are.

But there is a solution and that is to wake up to the reality of your laziness, of your complacency and fix it.

Change, turn around, repent, improve, grow up, mature, be a better person. Amen. You don't have to stay stuck in spiritual or physical filth forever. You can change, it's not impossible.

Look at Romans chapter 12 verse 1, Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of Theos, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, to Theos, which is your logical or reasonable service of worship.

Present your flesh as holy to God, a holy sacrifice. You know, the sacrifices had to be very specific, they had to be clean, they had to be without blemish. Amen.

When they killed an animal, it had to be an animal that was perfect, the best of the flock, the very best of the flock.

If that animal had any type of a sore or a blemish or defect physically, then you was not allowed to sacrifice it to God. So that must be true for us too if we are a sacrifice to God. Amen. The Bible does say that Jesus is coming back for his church, a bride, without spot, without wrinkle, without blemish, and then this is in Ephesians.

Let's see if we can find that. I think it's Ephesians 5. Let's double check. It might be chapter 4 or it might be chapter 5.

Ephesians 5 verse 27.

So that he might present to himself the congregation of called out ones. Now, I'm going to back up here because I had written down already verse 26.

This is God as well. Amen. I had written down verse 26 for a different point and here it is verse 27 that I'm going to now and I did not have verse 27 written down.

I did not prepare verse 27. So in that case, I'm going to start in verse 26 so that he might sanctify her, the wife, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word.

This is talking about husbands reading the scriptures to the wife and using the analogy of washing the wife by reading her the scriptures.

Now in that context of 2000 years ago, most women could not read. Even a lot of men could not read.

But the majority of people that could read were men even though even a lot of men could not read either.

But if anybody in the house could read, it was normally the man. And Paul is telling the men in that context, in the context in which the women couldn't read, that to read them the holy scriptures would wash their soul, cleanse their soul.

Today, a wife, a woman can read for herself and should not rely totally upon a man to read to her.

And then of course verse 27, now that he might present to himself the congregation of called out ones in all her glory, the church, so that Jesus might present to himself the church in all of her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing, just like a sacrifice could not have a blemish, that he might, that she would be holy and blameless. Amen.

What about the analogy of white robes? Amen. We don't even have to turn there, we know that.

The analogy of white robes is symbolic and spiritual. Amen.

Let's go to 1st Corinthians 14. And it's about responsibility as well, keeping our houses and our clothes and our bodies and our cars and our property and our porch and our front porch and our back porch and our yard clean is about responsibility.

If you're not going to be responsible in the physical things, then you're also not going to be responsible on the spiritual things either, because that's the type of person you are.

And are we not being tall and prepared for leadership of future inheritance, planets, nations, property, Romans 8, that we are the children of God, and as children of God we are going to inherit the universe, that we will inherit the universe, that we'll be given property, whether it might be a planet or a nation or a city or a town or a neighborhood or a street or an acre, different people, different amounts of land that we'll be put in charge of in paradise.

And if we can't learn in this life how to maintain, properly maintain, take care of property, physical things, then how are we going to do it in the next life?

Are we going to be given an entire planet and then trash the entire planet? God will say, if he cannot maintain one little space on earth, then how is he going to maintain a mansion in paradise? Amen?

If we cannot maintain a small little piece of property on earth right now, how are we going to maintain New Jerusalem, our mansion?

If we cannot maintain a small little piece of land, then how are we going to maintain our mansion in paradise?

God will not give us what we cannot maintain. God will not give us more than we can handle for our inheritance.

1st Corinthians 14 verse 40, that all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner.

Context is about we should not allow confusion and chaos in the church setting. Too many people talking all at one time, stuff like that.

But nevertheless, that same spiritual principle of not living in chaos, but rather everything being done properly and in an orderly, organized manner.

Our lives should be in a proper and organized mannerism. Our lives should be not just church service, not just one day a week, but seven days a week.

And everything that we're put in charge of, that we are responsible as stewards, caretakers, that God has given us to manage, to properly keep and manage whatever God has given us.

Whatever we're given, we are responsible for. And God is not the God of chaos or filth.

And we should reflect His light. Amen. We should reflect His light.

Titus chapter 2, we never hardly look at Titus.

Titus 2 verse 7, in all things show yourself to be an example of good works with purity and doctrine, dignified sound and speech, which is beyond reproach so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us. Amen.

In all things it says in verse 7, all things to be a good example. That's letting your light shine, not doing it to brag, but just being a good person, a decent person, well managing everything that God has given us.

Whether it is our bodies, our clothes, our house, our car, our yard. Like I said one time in a sermon a few weeks ago that, you know, sometimes I walk around the neighborhood and some of these yards are just totally nasty.

The porch is crowded up with a bunch of junk, junk in the yard. Looks like a junk yard rather than somebody's house. And I say to myself, how can someone be so nasty? We don't want people saying that about us. Amen. We don't want people saying that about us. It's shameful. And when it's shameful to us, it's shameful to God because we are supposed to be examples to people, a shining light reflecting God's glory.

John 13 verse 10. At the top of the page here, Jesus said to him, he who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean.

And you are clean, but not all of you. What he's saying is a daily or a regular pattern of cleaning.

So that if you've already taken a bath or a shower on a certain day, then the next day all you have to do is wash your feet.

You don't have to take a full bath or full shower every day unless you should because some people work certain jobs in which you do need to take a shower every day.

When I worked at McDonald's, I did take a shower absolutely every day because you leave that place smelling like hamburgers and grease. Amen.

So it depends on what type of job or also how much you sweat, different things like this.

Different people, their body odor is worse than other people. By the cost of what you eat or your genetics, whatever.

So different people need to take baths or showers a different number of times per week or per month.

But nevertheless, if we're maintaining our bodies, taking showers or baths on a normal routine schedule, whether it's every day or once a week, depending on your situation, your body type and your work and your surroundings and temperatures, so many variables.

But in between that, you could just wash your hands, wash your feet, wash your underarms, wash your groin in between.

So it is something that is clean as you go. If you're cleaning as you go, then it doesn't accumulate and heap upon more and more and more accumulating maintenance, regular maintenance.

Not just repair, but maintenance. One thing with our health is that we wait until we get sick and then we have to repair it and then it's difficult to repair.

But if we had maintained our health to start with on a regular basis, a proper diet, eating the right things, avoiding the high fructose corn syrup, avoiding the Coca Cola and Pepsi, avoiding things, the white sugar and so forth, avoiding things and eating our fruits and vegetables and our meat and our proteins and walking and exercising and staying active in life.

That's a lot easier than trying to fix it after it's already broken. Amen. We need to be active people. It's harder after you get older to maintain and to be active, especially if you got a late start on maintenance, your health maintenance, eating right.

But the sooner the better for any of us, whether you get a late start or not get a late start, the sooner that we be active and passionate about both physical and spiritual things and they become responsible for our health, responsible for our property, responsible for our families, responsible for ourselves, mature, responsible people.

The sooner we start that, regardless of what age you started, the better off you'll be.

If you keep that off until the next year and the next year and the next decade, it's going to be a whole lot harder to fix it once it's broken.

And finally, well not finally because God gave me another verse, but before we get to that verse He gave me, let's first go to 2nd Corinthians 7.

2nd Corinthians 7, verse 1. Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the earth. Amen.

Perfecting holiness, even as the Bible says, be ye perfect and be ye holy. Amen. Perfecting holiness in the fear of God, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of both flesh and spirit.

Cleanliness is next to godliness.

Malachi chapter 3, this is the verse God gave us as we was preparing to go on air for the sermon today.

I did not prepare this myself. And this is divine, miracle confirmation.

This was divine, miracle, thus say of the Lord, because I've got 148 sound files, different audio files, 148 programmed into the computer to play at random, constantly, 24/7, and it was still doing that as we were preparing to go on air for the broadcast today, for the live worship services, and at random, but it was not at random at all.

It was God. God made the computer play the audio file for this chapter of Malachi chapter 3, verse 1. I'm going to start in verse 1, Behold, I send forth my messenger, and he shall survey the way before me. And Jesus whom you seek shall suddenly come into his sanctuary, even the messenger of the covenant, whom you take pleasure in. Behold, he is coming, say of Jesus the Almighty. And who will abide in the day of his coming? Oh, who will withstand at his appearing? For he is coming as a fire of a furnace, and as a soap of washing. He shall sit to melt and purify as it were silver, and as it were gold. He shall purify the sons of Levi, and define them as gold and silver, and they shall offer to Jesus a offering in righteousness. That's Old Testament prophecy of Jesus coming in the flesh as a babe, but also more so that there will be a second coming in which he will purify the earth over a process of a thousand one hundred years, and eventually melt the earth and bring in paradise, but that the blood of Jesus washes away sins, cleanses us, and that Jesus is called a soap of washing. That's divine miracle that the computer picked that or played that particular audio file at that precise moment that we only had something like a couple minutes, three, four, five minutes left before we would go on the air today. That's God.

Just as yesterday, a small lizard came into the house, into the kitchen, and although lizards are not as good as we are, although lizards are not hazardous, the small ones that are here in our region are not hazardous as far as biting and poisonous or secreting any toxic substance or anything like that. They're innocent and pure, except for one thing, they do carry bacteria. So they can spread bacteria in your home. They can give your pets a bacteria infection if your cat or dog was to eat it. So I didn't want my cat to eat it, and I didn't want to have a lizard showing up in the middle of while we're on the couch and just scare the hell out of us, you know, while we're sitting on the couch and something like a snake crawls across our lap, you know. So I prayed that it would not remain in the house, that it would not remain in the house, and that my cat would not eat it. And it was only minutes later, less than one hour, that R found the lizard in the mop bucket, and that's amazing, and that is divine. Answer the prayer, and that is God putting into the heart and mind of that lizard to crawl into that mop bucket. Absolutely. It is equivalent to reading a Bible verse that does not exist until now. He prayed, and God put it into the mind of that lizard, and he crawled into the mop so that they could carry it out of the house and release it into the forest. That's divine. That's the power of God. Amen. You need to keep a journal of miracles. Everyone need to keep a book to where you write in it about every miracle that you witness in this ministry and in your life, every prayer that God answers. Every victory. So that when you are down and distraught, frustrated, angry, feel fruitless, your life is in vain, depressed, that you can go back and read these testimonies of what God has done for you and what God has done for you. And that is the power of God. Amen. That you can go back and read these testimonies of what God has done for you and what God has done for us as one body in Christ Jesus worldwide. One body. We suffer together and we rejoice together. We share in the same victories. We share in the same ancient prayers, the same miracles, and we share in the same suffering and sickness. Me and Brother H separated by thousands of miles, but yet at the exact same day that we both started suffering leg pain, knee pain of the same type, different needs. That's God. One body. One church. One people. My victories are your victories and your victories is my victories and your suffering is my suffering and my suffering is your suffering. Amen. This Malachi 3 confirmation today should be written in your book, in your holy scriptures, that you're writing for the Lord of what God has done. Every person that truly follows Christ Jesus in the truth should be writing scriptures, what God said, what God did, what you have heard and seen that testifies of the power and glory of God. What if we only had the testimony of only Jeremiah? Only Daniel. Only Esther. Only Ruth. We need everybody's testimony. That's all they are. Our testimony is what they saw and what they heard. Amen. I praise Jesus for all of this. Yesterday's miracles, today's miracles and tomorrow's miracles. Amen. Praise Jesus. God is good. He's the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. God changes not. He is good.

So I'm going to put on a song and I'll be back with your questions and your comments and your testimonies.
And we'll put on that one song again about washing away the blood, washes white as snow, song number 57.
And we'll be back with your questions and comments.

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