

First Things First
God's Grid for Purity
Haggai 2:10-19

- I. God's Message through Haggai
 - A. Context (10-19)
 - B. Holiness Transmitted? (12)
 - C. Impurity Transmitted? (13)
 - D. The conclusion (14)
 - E. Outcomes (15-19)
- II. Old Testament Purity Standards
 - A. Numbers 19:13
 - B. Isaiah 24:5
 - C. Genesis 3:17-19; cf Romans 5:12-14
- III. Gospel Purity Standards
 - A. Romans 5:15-21
 - B. Romans 5:6-11
- IV. Reflection and Confession

GMD²

Chances are, most of you had one of two responses to today's sermon.

First, you may have affirmed that you are not a Christian as the gospel defines it. If so, spend some time working through what some call the "Romans Road." It is a great pathway for you to understand the reality and presence of sin in your life, its impact which renders you helpless to save yourself, and God's solution to your problem. The "Romans Road" contains the following verses (in order): Romans 3:23; 6:23; 5:6-8; 10:9-10.

Second, you may have realized that although you're a Christian, there are areas of sin and impurity in your life. If so, spend some time meditating on Psalm 139:23-24 and responding to what God brings to your attention.

Anyone who touches a corpse, the body of a man who has died, and does not purify himself, defiles the tabernacle of the LORD; and that person shall be cut off from Israel. Because the water for impurity was not sprinkled on him, he shall be unclean; his uncleanness is still on him. (Numbers 19:13)

The earth is also polluted by its inhabitants, for they transgressed laws, violated statutes, broke the everlasting covenant. (Isaiah 24:5)

Then to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it'; Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; And you will eat the plants of the field; By the sweat of your face you will eat bread, till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; For you are dust, and to dust you shall return." (Genesis 3:17-19)

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned- for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. (Romans 5:12-14)

But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many. The gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many transgressions resulting in justification. For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous. The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 5:15-21)

For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation. (Romans 5:6-11)