

"And thus shalt thou do unto them, to cleanse them: Sprinkle water of purifying upon them, and let them shave all their flesh, and let them wash their clothes, and so make themselves clean." Numbers 8:7 KJV

Hairs collect millions of air-borne microscopic particles from their surroundings. Hence, the reason surgeons scrub, cap, gown, and don face masks before operating to remove and prevent germ laden particles from transferring to a patient and provoking an infection. They "*make themselves clean.*" The Levite priestly cleansing ritual is symbolic of the cleansing believers must constantly seek to rid themselves of unknown filth they have collected unawares from the world in which they live and work. Many of the conflicts and strifes in the Assembly are the direct result of some germ of sin brought in unawares, because someone did not "*make themselves clean. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.*" Entertainment is rife with subliminal messages of self-importance. If we tarry near these influences they conform our way of thinking into one of selfishness and lust which we bring unawares into the Assembly. Once infection starts, strong medicine is needed to eradicate it. We must allow ourselves to constantly and consistently meditate on God's Word and "*pray without ceasing*" even at work and school to wash and "*shave*" the germs of sin off our minds that we may be clean. We cannot do our own soul-searching for if we are infected, we will not see the sin. Meditation allows God's Word to evaluate our life and bring to light the microscopic sin we would have otherwise missed. Then, "*if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*" You collect germs of sin without realizing it, but constant cleansing will keep them from festering. "*If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.*" You take baths to remove daily accumulated dust from your physical body and soul cleansing is just as necessary. Skid-row bums do not bathe and their aroma quickly confirms their uncleanness. They, however, are accustomed to their own stink. Perfume may mask odor, but it will not hide filth! Those who do not bathe their souls are quickly evident by their words and deeds "*for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.*" You may not smell your own stink, but others will. Just as the priests needed water to bathe, you need "*Living Water*" to cleanse your soul.



Let God's Word dwell constantly,
In thy soul's reality,
So that others only see,
Jesus Christ's own purity. ~CGP

It's not a question of bathing once a day, but letting God's Word and prayer be your constant "bio-hazard suit" against the evil that will surely sicken you. Staying clean is paramount to staying healthy; physically and spiritually. Jesus said, "*Now ye are clean through the Words I have spoken unto you.*" Sin will keep you from God's Word, or God's Word will keep you from sin!

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. – Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 & Colossians 3:16 KJV