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## SCRIPTURE

- If anyone teaches **false doctrines** and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, he is conceited and understands nothing. (1 Timothy 6:3–4 NIV)
- He has an unhealthy interest in **controversies** and **quarrels about words** that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions and constant friction between men of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain. (1 Timothy 6:4–5 NIV)

2

## SCRIPTURE

- But **godliness** with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. (1 Timothy 6:6–8 NIV)
- People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a **trap** and into many foolish and harmful desires that **plunge** men into ruin and destruction. (1 Timothy 6:9 NIV)
- For the **love of money** is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have **wandered** from the faith and **pierced** themselves with many griefs. (1 Timothy 6:10 NIV)

3

## SCRIPTURE

- But you, **man of God**, flee from all this, and pursue [...]
  - righteousness,
  - godliness,
  - faith, [and] love,
  - endurance and gentleness. (1 Timothy 6:11 NIV)
- **Fight the good fight of the faith**. (1 Timothy 6:12 NIV)

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## SCRIPTURE

- Command those who are **rich** in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their **hope** in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. (1 Timothy 6:17 NIV)
- Command them to do good, to be **rich** in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. (1 Timothy 6:18 NIV)
- In this way they will lay up **treasure** for themselves as a firm foundation for the **coming age**, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. (1 Timothy 6:19 NIV)

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## INTRODUCTION



- **“Mr. Clean,”** the bald, muscular, earring-bedazzled and immaculately dressed icon of all things **shiny** and **scrubbed** turns 61 this year.
- Since 1958, America has become accustomed to seeing him show up in **commercials** helping someone make things **spic-and-span** with his patented formula.

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## INTRODUCTION



- And in these 60-some years, he hasn't aged much.
- He wears a white shirt, has white eyebrows, his arms are folded.

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## INTRODUCTION



- Mr. Clean's **solvent** was originally created as an alternative to the caustic fluids that had previously been used for cleaning ships.
- In fact, Mr. Clean looks like a guy who's just stepped off of a squeaky-clean **Navy ship** in port from some far-off locale.

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## INTRODUCTION

- Unfortunately, the price for products like **Mr. Clean** and **other household cleaning supplies** is inching upward.
- If you've been at the store to pick up paper towels, bleach, diapers, laundry detergent or even toothpaste, you may have felt like **you're getting cleaned out yourself**.
- Prices are increasing from 2 to 20 percent on a number of **cleaning staples**.



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## INTRODUCTION

- Keeping things **clean** has always been costly, not only in terms of the various goos, potions and wipes we use but also in terms of **elbow grease**.
- **Dirt** and **grime** have a tendency to accumulate quickly, and it takes a diligent, determined and daily **effort** to scrub, scour, sweep, mop, dust and wipe down all things domestic.



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## CLEANING MYTHS

1. Bleach is the best cleaner for your bathroom.

This is **false**, bleach is a sanitizer not a cleaner.

2. Too much vacuuming ruins your carpets.

This is **false**, dust and dirt that gets down in the base of a carpet does more damage than a vacuum.

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## CLEANING MYTHS

3. Hand-washing dishes is more effective than a dishwasher.

This is **false**, the water temperature in a dishwasher is much hotter and the dishes are exposed to soap much longer. Plus the "drying cycle," helps sanitize the dishes.

4. Washing clothes in cold water doesn't get them clean.

This is **false**, its the detergent, not the temperature of the water that has the biggest effect on your laundry. Cold water preserves the quality and color of your clothes much better than hot water.

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## SPIRITUAL UNCLEANNES

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- I don't know if you know this but **Cleanliness** was a major issue in the Bible!
  - *As the prophet Isaiah said about himself and the Jewish people, "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."* (Isaiah 6:5 NIV)
  - In fact, so **wicked** had the people become that even the good things they did were dirty.
  - *As Isaiah also said, All of us have become like one who is **unclean**, and all our righteous acts are like **filthy rags**; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.* (Isaiah 64:6 NIV)
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## SPIRITUAL UNCLEANNES

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- During **Jesus'** ministry there were many people who were possessed by "**unclean spirits.**"
  - In fact, He gave **authority** to His disciples to minister to this specific problem.
  - *And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them **authority** over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction.* (Matthew 10:1 ESVi)
  - The word used for "unclean" is the Greek word, **akathartos**, which means something that is impure, lewd, or foul.
  - In our English vernacular, we might use the colloquial word "**yucky,**" which means something that is repugnant or disgusting.
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## SPIRITUAL UNCLEANNES

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- Sad to say, in Jesus' day the largest group that had a **cleanliness** problem was the moral **leadership class** of Israel.
  - Jesus says to the Pharisees, "*Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything **unclean (yucky).***" (Matthew 23:27 NIV)
  - If you remember, it was the Pharisees who complained that it was Jesus' disciples who were **unclean** because they didn't wash their hands before eating.
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## SPIRITUAL UNCLEANNES

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- To clear up this matter, *Jesus called to crowd and said, "**Listen and understand.***
  - *What goes into a man's mouth does not make him '**unclean,**' but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him '**unclean.**'"* (Matthew 15:10-11 NIV)
  - To clarify His remarks, Jesus asks the question, "**Are you still so dull?**" (Matthew 15:16 NIV)
  - *"But the **things** that come out of the mouth come from the **heart**, and these make a man **unclean.**"* (Matthew 15:18 NIV)
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## SPIRITUAL UNCLEANNESS

- “For out of the **heart** come . . .
  - *evil thoughts, murder,*
  - *adultery, sexual immorality,*
  - *theft, false testimony, and slander.*
- These are what make a man **‘unclean’**; but eating with unwashed hands does not make him **‘unclean.’** (Matthew 15:19–20 NIV)

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## THE CANAANITE WOMAN

- Knowing that He had offended the **Pharisees**, Jesus left that place and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.
- There Jesus met a **Canaanite woman** who had a daughter with a “yucky” spirit.
- She cried out to Him, “Lord, Son of David, have **mercy** on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession.” (Matt. 15:22)
- You know what Jesus did? He told her to **get lost**.
- Furthermore, He called her a **dog**!



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## THE CANAANITE WOMAN

- “Yes, Lord,” she said, “but even the dogs eat the **crumbs** that fall from their masters’ table.” (Matt. 15:27)
- Then Jesus answered, “Woman, you have **great faith!**” (Matt. 15:28a)
- “Your request is granted.” And her daughter was **healed** from that very hour. (Matt. 15:28b)
- No longer was she and her mother **tormented** by this “yucky, unclean, and impure” spirit.



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## THE PURE IN HEART

- When Jesus started his ministry, He gave this **promise**.
- Blessed are the **pure in heart**, for they will see God. (Matthew 5:8 NIV)
- According to the Apostle Paul, the purpose of God’s grace was to **purify** for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. (Titus 2:14 NIV)
- However, as we all know, we are **surrounded** by corruption, immorality, depravity, vice, and all kinds of people with “yucky” spirits.
- Some are **false teachers** in our midst, who report to be our spiritual guides.

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## PURPOSE OF PURITY

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- Quoting Isaiah 52:11, the Apostle Paul says, “Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. **Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you.**” “**I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.**” (2 Corinthians 6:17–18 NIV)
  - Since we have these **promises**, dear friends, let us *purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.* (2 Corinthians 7:1 NIV)
  - As the Apostle James also says, *Come near to God and he will come near to you. **Wash your hands, . . . , and purify your hearts, . . . .*** (James 4:8 NIV)
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## INITIAL WASHING

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- When we **receive** Christ, we are as the Apostle Paul says in 1 Corinthians 6:11, *washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of the Lord and by the Spirit of God.*
  - However, we can still get “**yucky**” all over again, if we allow ourselves to be **influenced** by the **spirit of this world** and **our flesh**, which includes attitudes and emotions such as greed, envy, lust, pride, sexual immorality, hatred, bitterness, and resentment.
  - So then, how do we keep ourselves from being polluted by these “**yucky spirits?**”
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## PROCESS OF PURIFICATION

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- On the night that Jesus was betrayed, He gave His disciples during their Passover dinner the content of the **New Covenant**. When he was finished he looked to heaven and prayed that the Father would glorify the Son.
  - A critical part of that prayer is when Jesus prayed for not only the disciples but for those who would believe their message and how they could be **kept safe** from the evil one.”
  - He prayed, **sanctify** (purify) *them by the truth; your word is truth.* (John 17:17 NIV)
  - In other words, **walking out God’s word**, does a work of **spiritual cleansing** in us that **repels** “**yucky and tormenting**” spirits.
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## PROCESS OF PURIFICATION

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- This is how the writer of Psalm 119 addresses this issue. *How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word.* [...] I have hidden **your word** in my heart that I might not sin against you. (Psalm 119:11)(Psalm 119:9)
  - The Apostle John puts it this way. *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.* (1 John 1:7 NIV)
  - This is why the **command** to purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God, is **very important**.
  - It perfects our **relationship with God** and gives us peace and protection from the cunning and craftiness of false teachers and the “**yucky spirits**” that are often behind their ministries.
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## CONCLUSION

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- The way to a deeper relationship with God that gives us peace from tormenting and yucky spirits is when we by faith **imitate** the qualities and attributes inherent in the **nature** of God.
  - When we do this, we will **no longer** *be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the **truth** in love, we will in all things **grow up into him** who is the Head, that is, Christ. (Ephesians 4:14–15 NIV)*
  - The point is this, when we **walk in the truth** as outlined by Scripture and are not corrupted by **cultural accommodations**, it will cleanse us from the **spirits of this world** and bring us close to God.
  - **Blessed** are those who wash their robes, that they may have the **right** to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. (Revelation 22:14 NIV)
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