

## More On The Laver

In **Exodus 30:19** we read, "Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and feet thereat."

The Laver was strictly for the priests only, to cleanse them for service - but also for us as a "royal priesthood."

Moses washed or bathed them once at their consecration (**Exodus 29:4**) and this was not repeated because it is a picture of regeneration and baptism. But thereafter they were to wash hands and feet in water from the Brass Laver before entering the Holy Place and "when they come near the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the Lord."

**1 John 5:19** - "And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness."

Passing through this world causes us to be defiled, both in our hands (what we do) and feet (where we tread) both physically, mentally, emotionally, socially, etc.

**2 Corinthians 7:1** - "Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit"

The Laver is brass, which symbolizes judgment - God's testing reveals our own failings and sin.

The water represents the Word - God's commands and the Law, which is fulfilled in Christ himself.

"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to Thy Word" (**Psalms 119:9**)

The Laver was made using the brass mirrors of the pious women:

**Exodus 38:8** - "And he made the laver of brass, and the foot of it of brass, of the looking-glasses of the women assembling, which assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation."

Recall James' admonition, using a "mirror" analogy:

**James 1:23-25** - "For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass. For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

The same is reflected in the call for self-examination as we partake of the Lord's Supper:

**1 Corinthians 11:28** - "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup."

Remember, sin has been taken care of "once and for all" by Christ. This is about getting the dirt off that we've collected just by living as a human in a fallen world.

The washing at the Laver is not an attempt at self-reformation or a response to pangs of conscience, or an emotional feeling of inadequacy, or something you have to psyche yourself up to do. The "examination" is the reflection caused by simply applying the scriptures to our lives daily and listening to the Spirit. The resulting cleansing comes from our repentance, and readies us for service.

Our standing in Christ is assured. Our communion and fellowship with God, our service and worship is what is made possible for us through this daily washing.