**Washed**

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday April 23rd, 2023

Text: I Corinthians 6:9-11

### Intro

1. 2020: Called the Dumpster Fire Year. Lessons we learned:
	1. A pandemic can shut the world down.
	2. Through government overreach we learned our Constitutional Rights aren’t as “unalienable” as we thought *(fallout from that playing out in courts still today).*
	3. Some people are willing to give up their rights in the name of “safety” and the “greater good.”
	4. Misinformation can come from anywhere.
	5. Masks can divide the country, families and churches.
	6. We stood too close to each other.
	7. We touched our faces way too often.
	8. None of us knew how to wash our hands properly! *(Or for how long!)*
2. Washing hands became one of the most important preventative measures we were told to take against COVID-19.
	* 1. Before COVID-19 most Hand Washing Posters had 5-7 steps.
		2. During and after COVID-19 Hand Washing Posters cropped up with 12-13 steps!
		3. Tons of videos were made to show us *how to wash* our hands properly!
		4. We were told to wash our hands anywhere from 15-40 seconds; to sing the Happy Birthday Song slowly and then we’re done.
		5. Washing your hands may wash them clean for a moment, until you touch something else.
		6. Washing your hands never fully removes the germs.
3. To truly be worry and stress free, God prescribes a way to be washed clean from sin way less complicated than the Hand Washing Posters put out the last three years!
4. In a few simple steps, you can be Washed, Sanctified and Justified in Jesus Christ!

#### The Need to be Washed

* 1. I Corinthians 6:9-10
		1. There are some people, due to unrighteousness, who will not inherit the kingdom of God!
		2. Those who don’t inherit God’s kingdom will inherit Hell, Satan’s punishment and eternal prison *(Matthew 25:41).*
		3. The unrighteous are those who commit evil acts (I John 3:4, 7-8), of which a few are named here (I Cor. 6:9-10).
	2. Sins involving the abuse or misuse of the body (sexual immorality):
		1. Fornication (sex before marriage) & Adultery (sex with someone other than one’s spouse)
			1. Flee immorality! (I Corinthians 6:13, 18: The body is not for immorality)
			2. The marriage bed is to be held in honor because God will judge fornicators and adulterers (Hebrews 13:5).
		2. Homosexuality & Effeminate (Same-sex sexual immorality)
			1. God has decreed that homosexual practices are sinful – Romans 1
			2. Romans 1:26: Described as being “degrading” (NKJ: “vile”), “unnatural” (NKJ: “against nature”)
			3. Romans 1:27: Described as “indecent acts” (NKJ: “shameful”) and “error”
			4. Romans 1:28: Described as being “not proper” (NKJ: “not fitting”).
			5. Romans 1 describes same-sex practices as conduct that results from rejecting the Creator! (Rom. 1:25).
	3. Sins involving the abuse or misuse of things:
		1. Idolatry, stealing (robbing & swindling, or extortion), and covetousness/greed (Col. 3:5: Saints are to “put to death” these evil things in their lives).
	4. Sins of lack of self-control:
		1. Drunkenness (I Pet. 4:3-5: Saints not to engage in such behavior: drunkenness, carousing, that is late-night drinking in the streets, and drinking parties!)
		2. Revilers: Verbal abuse at others or blasphemy against God (Gal. 5:20: Outbursts of anger listed as a deed of the flesh!).
	5. The world has been deceived and they teach these things are not only acceptable but should be practiced with impunity! (Rom. 2:6-9: The unrighteous will be punished)
	6. Just as the Corona Virus was a cause to wash our hands, sin is a cause for washing our hearts because it carries an eternal penalty!

#### We Can Be Washed (Be made clean)

* 1. The world teaches many of these practices (I Cor. 6:9-10) are inherent (born with) and cannot be changed from!
		1. The obvious sin that is taught is genetic is homosexuality, but also some teach people are born with genetic tendencies towards immorality (can’t stay faithful or monogamous), anger issues & drunkenness.
	2. I Corinthians 6:11: “Such *were* some of you!”
		1. Some of the Corinthians had been unrighteous, but became righteous!
		2. “Such *were* some of you!”
		3. Some of the Corinthian brethren came out of these unrighteous backgrounds – we can know that we CAN change our lifestyles!
	3. The Corinthians had been “washed”:
		1. Acts 18:8: They heard the gospel and were baptized.
			1. Revelation 1:5: (NKJV) The blood of Christ washes away our sins.
			2. Acts 22:16: When we are baptized our sins are washed away.
			3. Ephesians 5:25-27: Being washed “of water with the word” is the way for Christ to present the church as having “no spot or wrinkle,” being “holy and blameless.”
	4. The Corinthians, being washed, were “sanctified”:
		1. I Cor. 1:2: They were sanctified and called “saints.”
			1. To be sanctified is to be “set apart” (holy) to God; no longer unrighteous!
	5. The Corinthians, having been washed and sanctified, were “justified”:
		1. Justification is the act of being pardoned, freed from guilt, in this case, the guilt of sin (unrighteousness).
		2. Through baptism we are justified…
			1. “Justified freely by His grace” (Romans 3:24; Titus 3:7)
			2. “Justified by faith” (Romans 5:1; Galatians 2:16)
			3. ”Justified by His blood” (Romans 5:9)
		3. Romans 5:9: Being washed in His blood justifies us & saves us from His wrath.
		4. Romans 8:33: God justifies. On that Day of Judgment, we will stand justified.
	6. Obedience to the gospel washes, sanctifies, and justifies us!
	7. We must know that we CAN change from unrighteous lives to righteous lives for God, that we can be washed and made clean!

#### How to Wash

* 1. The words of Jesus… Hear, Believe, Repent, Confess, be Baptized, Obey (be faithful)

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| **Scriptures** | **Hear** | **Believe** | **Repent** | **Confess** | **Baptized** | **Obedience** |
| ***Jesus’ Teaching*** | *John 5:24* | *John 3:16-18* | *Luke 13:3-5* | *Mt. 10:32* | *Mark 16:16* | *John 8:31* |

* 1. Did others follow that pattern?

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| *Mt. 28:18-20* | **Examples of Conversion** | *Mk. 16:15-16* |
| **Examples** | **Hear** | **Believe** | **Repent** | **Confess** | **Baptized** | **Mark 16:16** |
| **Pentecost**Acts 2:14-41 | 2:37 | 2:37 | 2:38 |  | 2:38, 41 | Believed (2:37) & Baptized (2:41) |
| **Samaritans**Acts 8:5-14 | 8:6 | 8:12 |  |  | 8:12 | Believed (8:12) & Baptized (8:12) |
| **Simon** Acts 8:13 | 8:6 | 8:13 | 8:9 |  | 8:13 | Believed (8:13) & Baptized (8:13) |
| **Eunuch**Acts 8:26-39 | 8:34-35 | 8:37 |  | 8:37 | 8:38 | Believed (8:37) & Baptized (8:38) |
| **Saul** Acts 9:1-18; 22:10-16; 26:2-21; Gal. 1:23; I Tim. 1:13 | 22:10, 15 | 9:11 | Gal. 1:23I Tim. 1:13 | 22:10 | 22:16; 9:18 | Believed (9:11: “praying”) & Baptized (9:18) |
| **Cornelius**Acts 10:1-48 | 10:33 | 10:43 |  |  | 10:48 | Believed (10:43) & Baptized (10:48) |
| **Sergius Paulus**Acts 13:4-12 | 13:7 | 13:12 |  |  |  | Believed (13:12) |
| **Lydia**Acts 16:13-15 | 16:14 | 16:15 |  |  | 16:15 | Believed (16:15) & Baptized (16:15) |
| **Jailer**Acts 16:25-34 | 16:30 | 16:34 | 16:33 |  | 16:33 | Believed (16:34) & Baptized (16:33) |
| **Corinthians**Acts 18:8 | 18:8 | 18:8 |  |  | 18:8 | Believed (18:8) & Baptized (18:8) |
| **Galatians**Galatians 3:26-27 |  | 3:26 |  |  | 3:27 | Believed (3:26) & Baptized (3:27) |
| **Ephesians**Acts 19:4-5 | 19:5 | 19:4 |  |  | 19:5 | Believed (19:4) & Baptized (19:5) |
| **Colossians**Col. 1:5-10; 2:11-12 | 1:5-6 | 1:4; 2:12 |  |  | 2:12 | Believed (1:4) & Baptized (2:12) |

* 1. In these cases we can see the commission of Jesus to “Go” & “Teach” (Matthew 28:18-20) being fulfilled with the result of men and women believing and being baptized (with an urgency)!

## Conclusion

1. We, like the Corinthians (I Corinthians 6:9-11), must know:
	1. One CAN inherit the kingdom of God *(Colossians 1:13).*
	2. One CANNOT inherit the kingdom of God while enslaved to sin *(Romans 6:16, 20, 23).*
	3. One CAN change and be washed, sanctified, and justified through the blood of Jesus in obedience to the gospel *(Romans 6:17-18, 22-23).*
2. People can improperly wash their hands, in essence just get their hands wet.
	1. People can improperly try to wash their sins away, such as just saying a prayer (no where commanded by God, Jesus, or the apostles), being baptized by pouring or sprinkling, or getting baptized as an infant, or being baptized for any other reason than for the forgiveness of sins (IE: joining a church or for “an outward appearance of an inward grace”). In essence, just getting wet.
	2. With no other source but the Scriptures we can see one must hear and have faith (believe) and be baptized; and that no other mode of baptism but immersion is recorded! (All others are added by men).
3. People can properly wash their hands and it lasts temporarily.
	1. Jesus Himself said, “He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16).
	2. When one obeys the gospel by being baptized for forgiveness of sins and into the name of Jesus, the only name that can save (Acts 4:10-12), they are eternally washed!
	3. Must still repent of sins committed after being washed (I John 1:9) but no need to be washed again!
4. If you haven’t been Washed, Sanctified and Justified, obey the gospel NOW, recognizing that “now is ‘THE DAY OF SALVATION!’” (II Corinthians 6:2)
5. If not a Christian, why not obey the gospel now? Repent and be baptized into His name! Be washed and made clean from sin!
6. If a Christian in error, don’t wait until it’s eternally too late. Remember your Washing, and repent so that you may be renewed!
7. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!



