

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

September 3, 2025

Exodus 30:17-21

Introduction:

1. In addition to the altar of burnt offering, a laver was set up within the tabernacle.
2. The laver was set in place to ensure that the serve of the tabernacle performed by the priests was always a holy service. (Isa. 57.15; 1 John 1.5; 1 Tim. 6.16; 2 Cor. 6.14-16)
3. That the priests were required to wash before performing a service points to continuing nation of sin and our need to be cleansed continually.

I. THE BRONZE LAVER

A. The prescription.

1. **Exodus 30:17,18:** *"Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: 'You shall also make a laver of bronze, with its base also of bronze'"*
2. Laver (kywr; KEY-yor): A basin used for cooking or washing. (cf. 1 Sam. 2.14)
3. What were the materials used? (Ex. 38.8; cf. 1 Sam. 2.22; Luke 2.37)
4. While we are not given the dimensions, the bronze sea made for the temple is the equivalent of the laver. (1 Kings 7.23-26; 2 Kings 16.10,17,18)
5. Who constructed the laver? (Ex. 31.6-9; 35.10,16,30,34; 37.1; 38.8)

B. The purpose.

1. **Exodus 30.18:** *"for washing"* Not to be clean physically, but spiritually.
2. **Exodus 30.19:** *"Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet"*
 - a) Why were they to wash their hands? (Ex. 29.24; 29.37; 30.29,30)
 - b) Why were they to wash their feet? (Ex. 3.5)
3. **Exodus 30.20:** For service in the tabernacle or to burn offerings.
4. Were they not already clean? (Ex. 28.4,43; 29.4,37,38,39)

C. The penalty.

1. **Exodus 30.20,21:** *"lest they die"* Said twice.
2. **Exodus 30.21:** *"And it shall be a statute forever to them"* Lit., "to inscribe."

II. WASHING IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

A. The Bible associates washing with baptism.

1. "Washing" (baptismos) not to be confused with baptisma or baptizo. (Heb. 6.1)
2. Though the meaning is different, they are used to convey the same concept.
 - a) **Mark 7.4:** *"they do not eat unless they wash"* (baptisma - baptism)
 - b) **Mark 7.4:** *"like the washing of cups..."* (baptismos - washing)
3. To be baptized is to be washed clean. (Acts 22.16; Titus 3.5; 1 Cor. 6.11)

B. How often do we need to be made clean?

1. We only need to be baptized once, but made clean always. (cf. Matt. 6.11,12)
2. Every time we come to God, we must be clean. (Lev. 10.3; Heb. 10.22)