

# Sinners Have Issues

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## Leviticus 15

1 Timothy 5:22 Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.

- I. In this chapter we have another example and illustration of the nature of sin.
  - A. The example and illustration that God uses here is the issues of the body and how they contaminate others, and the environment around us.
  - B. Issue is a word that we do not use commonly now in the sense that the Bible does here.
  - C. Here is the definition of the word issue:  
ISSUE, n.
    1. The act of passing or flowing out; a moving out of any enclosed place.
    2. A sending out; as the issue of an order; the issue of a check, issue of a ticket, a license, etc.
    3. Progeny; a child or children; offspring.
  - D. So the meaning, as if it were not clear enough from the text, when speaking of a man or woman having an issue, is that which comes out of their body.
  - E. There were physical reasons for this law of God, which has to do with cleanliness and sanitation.
    1. With the millions of Israelites living in close contact in the wilderness for 40 years there had to be some laws to deal with sanitary matters or they would never would have survived.
  - F. But the more important application of these laws were concerning the purity and cleanliness of the soul.
    1. All that is mentioned applies equally to the pollution of sin and how it is spread to others through the issues of people.
  - G. Although sin is not a physical thing that can be spread like germs and viruses, it is still very contagious, according to the Word of God.
    1. We do not become sinners because it is some physical substance in our blood or our DNA, but because of our contact with the issues of sinners.
  - H. Issues are what come out of us – it is our influence on other people.
- II. The issues mentioned in this chapter are such as are unknown except to the person with the issue.
  - A. Therefore, they must refer to secret sins or things that we know about ourselves that others do not.
  - B. It proves that a person can be a great sinner in his heart secretly, while appearing to be a clean and holy person on the outside.
  - C. It is specifically called a “running issue” in the first mention of it here in this chapter.
    1. That means it is a continuous thing – it is not an occasional thing.
  - D. The issues mentioned here are too loathsome to mention, to hideous to read in public – and these are what God has chosen to show us how abominable even our secret sin is in his sight.

- III. The defilement of sin is the leading thought in this chapter.
- A. Everyone and everything that came into contact with the person with the running issue was defiled and made unclean.
  - B. If anyone touched anything he had lain on, sat on, ate or drank out of, spit or sneezed on, he was unclean, also.
  - C. Any bed he lay on, any chair or saddle he sat on, anything he drank out of was defiled and unclean, and able to pass the uncleanness to anyone who touched it.
  - D. If anyone touched the flesh of the person with the issue he was unclean and defiled.
  - E. Anything that was under him was defiled.
  - F. So the application here is that we must be very careful about everything we touch, or allow to touch us, in this sinful world around us.
  - G. Everything is defiled around us in this wicked world and we will be defiled by being around it.
  - H. To keep a pure heart we must stay clear of the issues of sinners.
- IV. What comes out of the sinners of this world?
- A. Their humanistic and carnal philosophies; their ways of thinking and reasoning are the number one thing that issues forth from them.
    - 1. This is the number one thing that has defiled and polluted the people in the churches who profess to be Christians.
    - 2. Their schools and colleges, and universities.
    - 3. Their talk shows on radio and TV.
    - 4. Their songs and music that are an essential part of their popular culture.
    - 5. Their news networks and organizations that ply our minds every day.
    - 6. These are all issues of sinners and ungodly people which defile and pollute the minds of all who come into contact with them.
  - B. Their constant flow (or running issue) of profane, sensual, immoral, enticements to sin.
    - 1. Mostly through advertisements through which they hope to get your money and enslave you with their product.
    - 2. Also through movies and videos which are always a means of transmitting information, or persuading you to believe something you do not believe, or have not heard of yet.
  - C. Their constant challenges to the truths of God, from creation, to matters of morality, to disputing the authority of the Bible.
  - D. The issues God chose to refer to in this chapter have to do with the matter of sex and men and women, because the main pillar of morality rests on this matter.
    - 1. When God's moral law in this matter is ignored all the rest of the moral law ceases to have any meaning.
  - E. We need to bathe often and wash our clothes in this world full of corruption.
    - 1. The Word of God is the water we need to wash our heart and mind.
    - 2. When we wash our clothes in the Word of God we will be dressed differently than the world around us, also – our clothes will show it.
    - 3. To wear the clothes that came from some defiled and polluted mind is to be defiled ourselves.
  - F. We need to be reminded often of the blood that cleanses us from all sin, and that was shed as an atonement for our sins.
  - G. We can only stay clean in this filthy world and keep our hearts pure by the water and the blood – the same elements that were involved in the cleansing of the leper.