



The Stain of our Defilement and Earthliness during Jacob's Time of Trouble

Purpose: To show from the word of God what is meant by the image of Jesus and the Second Adam versus the image of the first Adam after sin- We will show from God's word that the understanding and experience of those who are sealed and whose sins are blotted out are being brought out in this study in order to prepare them to stand when Jesus' work as high priest is complete.

Scripture: Genesis 1:26; Genesis 5:1-3; 1 Corinthians 15:47-49

Stain of our defilement during the time of trouble

"As Satan accuses the people of God on account of their sins, the Lord permits him to try them to the uttermost. Their confidence in God, their faith and firmness, will be severely tested. As they review the past, their hopes sink; for in their whole lives they can see little good. They are fully conscious of their weakness and unworthiness. Satan endeavors to terrify them with the thought that their cases are hopeless, that the **stain of their defilement** will never be washed away. He hopes to so destroy their faith that they will yield to his temptations, and turn from their allegiance to God."

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Defilement – To make filthy or dirty; pollute; the inward acts of sin which corrupt or make us unclean

- Mar 7:20 And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man.
- Mar 7:21 For **from within**, out of the heart of men, **proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders**,
- Mar 7:22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness:
- Mar 7:23 **All these evil things** come from within, and **defile the man**.



“Satan assailed Christ with his fiercest and most subtle temptations, but he was repulsed in every conflict. Those battles were fought in our behalf; those victories make it possible for us to conquer. Christ will give strength to all who seek it. No man without his own consent can be overcome by Satan. **The tempter has no power to control the will or to force the soul to sin. He may distress, but he cannot contaminate. He can cause agony, but not defilement.** The fact that Christ has conquered should inspire His followers with courage to fight manfully the battle against sin and Satan.”

The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 4 (1884), p. 330.1.

Note: This defilement is associated with our garments. When the above is retained within the unconverted heart it is naturally carried out. It defiles the man. When these sins are confessed and forsaken through the power of grace, the defilement is removed, but the STAIN that it leaves remains. A garment may be washed thoroughly yet its crimson mark is left as a memory of that defilement.

Stain - To discolor, soil, or spot: a spot, mark, or discoloration

- Isa 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

So why is this important for us to understand now and how will our understanding of this aid us in the time of Jacob's trouble?

“Yet Jacob's history is an assurance that God will not cast off those who have been deceived and tempted and betrayed into sin, but who have returned unto him with true repentance. While Satan seeks to destroy this class, God will send his angels to comfort and protect them in the time of peril. The assaults of Satan are fierce and determined, his delusions are terrible; but the Lord's eye is upon his people, and his ear listens to their cries. Their affliction is great, the flames of the furnace seem about to consume them; but the Refiner will bring them forth as gold tried in the fire. God's love for his children during the period of their severest trial is as strong and tender as in the days of their sunniest prosperity; but it is needful for them to be placed in the furnace fire; **their earthliness must be removed** that the image of Christ may be perfectly reflected.”



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What is this earthliness and how does this coincide with the image of Jesus being perfectly reproduced versus moral perfection? Let us allow the word of God to teach us concerning this matter.

- Genesis 1:26 And God said, **Let us make man in our image, after our likeness:** and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Note: When man was created he bore the outward resemblance and character of God. The nature was in perfect harmony with God, bearing the physical, mental and spiritual nature of God.

- Genesis 5:1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. **In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God** made he him;
- Gen 5:2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and **called their name** Adam, in the day when they were created.
- Gen 5:3 And **Adam** lived an hundred and thirty years, and **begat a son** in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:

Note: After the fall Adam and his posterity bore the fallen nature resulting from sin. Thus the physical, mental, moral and spiritual nature was defiled.

“Think of Christ’s humiliation. **He took upon himself fallen, suffering human nature**, degraded and defiled by sin. He took our sorrows, bearing our grief and shame. He endured all the temptations wherewith man is beset. He united humanity with divinity: a divine spirit dwelt in a temple of flesh. He united himself with the temple. ‘The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,’ because by so doing he could associate with the sinful, sorrowing sons and daughters of Adam.”

The Youth’s Instructor, December 20, 1900, par. 7

- Jer 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it?



Seeing the change above what are we to draw from this concerning this defilement and stain?

- 1Co 15:45 And so it is written, The **first man Adam** was made a living soul; the **last Adam** *was made* a quickening spirit.
- 1Co 15:46 Howbeit that *was* not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.
- 1Co 15:47 The **first man** is of the earth, earthy: the **second man** is the Lord from heaven. See John 8:2 “Ye are from beneath; I am from above...”
- 1Co 15:48 **As is the earthy**, such *are* they also that are **earthy**: and **as is the heavenly**, such *are* they also that are heavenly.
- 1Co 15:49 And **as we have borne** the image of the **earthy**, we shall **also bear** the image of the heavenly.

Now within the context of the above, this truth below is understood.

“..their earthliness must be removed that the image of Christ may be perfectly reflected.”

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Note: The image after the fall takes in both defilement/sin and its residual stain! But during Jacob's time of trouble the defilement or sins themselves would have already been confessed and prior to this forsaken. So that which remains is the stain or earthliness in which all the posterity of Adam have borne after the fall.

“Verily, verily, I say unto you,” Christ continued, “He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also.” The Saviour was deeply anxious for His disciples to understand for what purpose His divinity was united to humanity. He came to the world to display the glory of God, that man might be uplifted by its restoring power. God was manifested in Him that He might be manifested in them. **Jesus revealed no qualities, and exercised no powers, that men may not have through faith in Him. His perfect humanity is that which all His followers may possess, if they will be in subjection to God as He was.**”



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— Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 664.4, chapter 73, “Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled.”

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Closing: This truth presents no difficulties when we keep these clear facts in mind.

1. All sins are blotted out and removed during Jesus' work as intercessor in the heavenly sanctuary. This applies to all who have confessed and forsaken their sins.
2. The fruit of the Spirit which is the character of Christ is fixed prior to Jesus' work as intercessor being complete. This is evidenced in us settling into the truth both intellectually and spiritually whereby we cannot be moved.
3. This fruit is what the husbandman mentioned in James 5 has patiently waited for under both the former and latter rain. The latter rain brings the fruit to perfection and the latter rain is poured out prior to Jesus' work as high priest being complete. It is what seals us.
4. Sin is the transgression of the law and all transgressors are separated from the wheat prior to the seven last plagues.
5. Lastly, Revelation 22:11 is pronounced at the time Michael stands up from His work as high priest which occurs before Revelation 22:12
 - Rev 22:11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.
 - Rev 22:12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.