

God and Water

God Used Water to Save and Condemn through the Great Flood

-
Gen. 6-7

- God determined to destroy all mankind because of sin – 6:5-8
- That condemnation would come through water – 6:17; 7:11, 21, 23
- What made the difference?
 - Noah was righteous – 6:9
 - He was righteous because he obeyed – 6:13-14, 22-7:1
 - He was righteous because he expressed his faith in that obedience – Heb. 11:17
 - The rest were condemned in their disobedience and ungodliness – 2 Pet. 2:5

God Used Water to Cleans Naaman

-

2 Kings 5

- Naaman learned of possible healing through his servant girl – 5:1-9
- He learned his cleansing would come through the waters of the Jordan – 5:10
- God's instructions were a test of his faith – 5:11-12, 13
- When Naaman accepted God's word and obeyed he was cleansed – 5:14

God Used Water to Heal the Blind Man

-
John 9:1-7

- After putting clay on his eyes to complete his healing Jesus told him to “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” – 9:7
- Why Jesus chose this means we do not know.
- This is what God revealed, and it was only after obeying that “he came back seeing” – 9:7

God Used Water for Spiritual Cleansing

- Priests were made spiritually clean by being washed in water
 - At their anointing – Ex. 29:4, 7
 - Before approaching God in service – Ex. 30:17-21
- People typically call these “ceremonial” cleansings
 - Yet, these were not optional or unimportant – Ex. 30:19-21
 - Without having faith enough to obey, they would forfeit their lives!

The background of the image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of water with a teal or cyan color cast. The water's surface is covered in gentle, rhythmic ripples that create a sense of movement and depth. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the water's surface.

God Continues to Use Water
For His Purposes Today

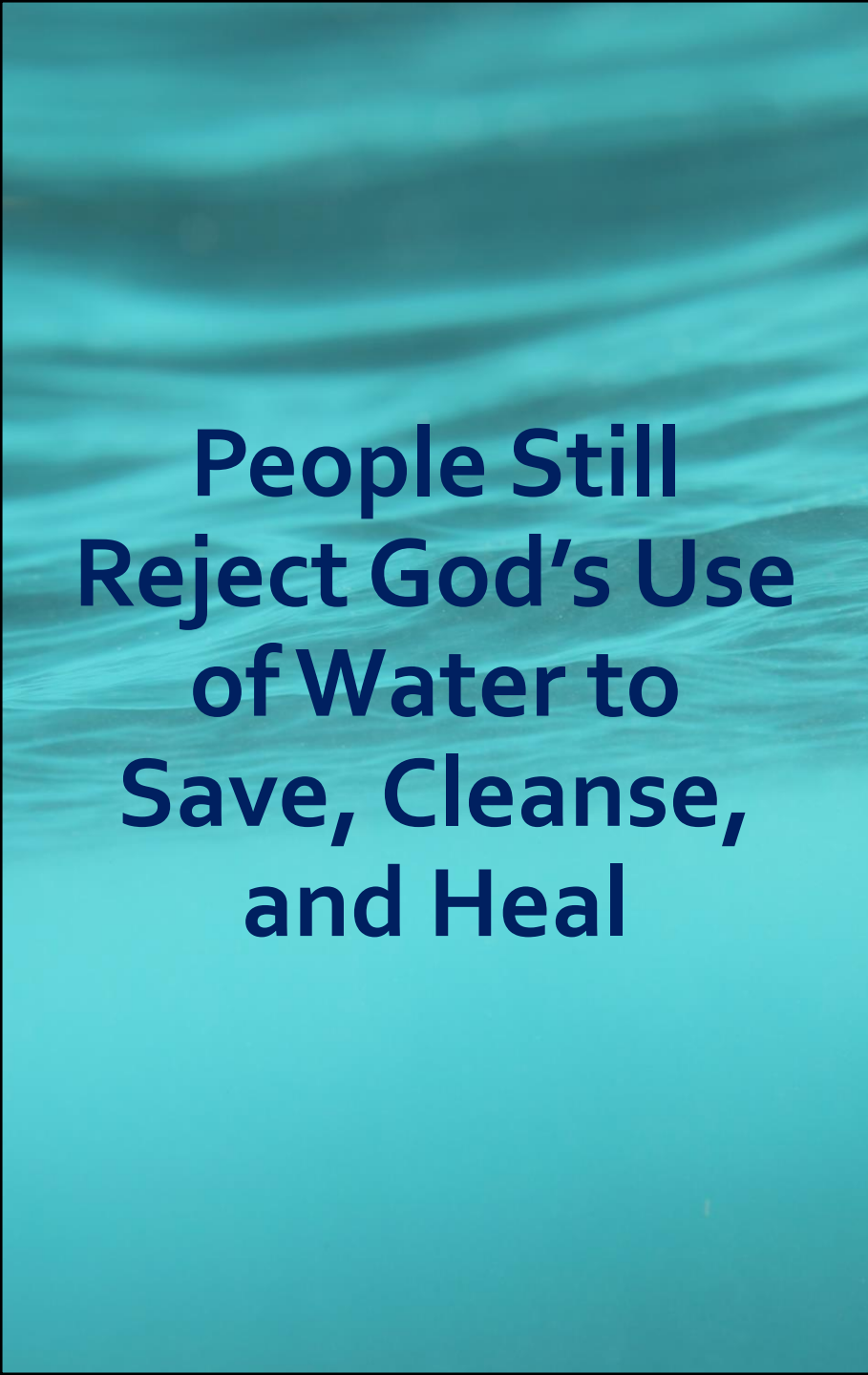
God Still Uses Water to Save and Condemn

- We see this in John's work as the forerunner of Christ – Mk. 1:4
 - His baptism concerned deliverance from the wrath of God – Mt. 3:5-7
 - Some were delivered, while others were not – Lk. 7:29-30
- We see this in the baptism commissioned by Jesus
 - Jesus offered deliverance from sin through the waters of baptism – Acts 2:36-40
 - Sinners seeking forgiveness and salvation find it in faith, repentance, and baptism
 - This was taught by Peter in his epistle – 1 Pet. 3:21

God Still Uses Water to Cleanse Our Spiritual Ills

- Acts 9

- We see this in the conversion of Saul who sinned greatly against Christ – 1 Tim. 1:12-15
- Jesus confronted Saul and told him to go to the city and wait for “what he must do” – Acts 9:6
 - Ananias came offering him cleansing by water, which he accepted in obedience – Acts 22:16, 18
 - Here he received mercy that is offered to those who believe – 1 Tim. 1:16



People Still Reject God's Use of Water to Save, Cleanse, and Heal

- It is rejected because we **are saved by faith**
 - Faith that saves is faith that obeys – Heb. 11:17, 19
 - Take care. One's view of baptism can leave them on the wrong side of saving faith – Mk. 16:16; Col. 2:12
- It is rejected because water **cannot cleanse one of sin**
 - The “ceremonial washings” of the priests meant life!
 - Water does not cleanse leprosy, but Naaman still had to wash to be clean.
 - Baptism brings us to Christ's blood – Rom. 6:3-4
- It is rejected because we are **saved by grace**
 - The blind man was healed by grace, but still had to go and wash
 - Jesus only saves those who have faith enough to obey– Heb. 5:8-9; 2 Thess. 1:6-8