

2 Timothy 2:20

But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor.

I was thinking of what the difference is between “sin” verses being “unclean”, as we read about in the Old Testament, where God tells the children of Israel to make offerings for when they sin and for when they are unclean (say from leprosy for example).

† **Numbers 15:27** *And if a person sins unintentionally, then he shall bring a female goat in its first year as a sin offering.*

† **Leviticus 13:15** *And the priest shall examine the raw flesh and pronounce him to be unclean; for the raw flesh is unclean. It is leprosy.*

The Holy Spirit gave me the following example to help me understand it better.

We are called vessels (Refer to today’s verse), or let’s just say we are all cups. With that in mind, lets say that you have a cup, and you drop it into the dirt by mistake, it has now unwillingly become dirty, or unclean. But say that you willfully fill that cup with dirt, you have now willfully made it dirty or unclean.

Now let’s say you drop the cup so that it breaks, and someone steps on a broken piece and gets cut, or you even cut yourself with it. Now a cup is meant to hold a drink, and by being broken it’s no longer being used for its intended use, even though it wasn’t on purpose, still it is no longer used for it’s intended purpose and harmed someone or yourself. This would be unintentional sin (missing the mark).

Lastly, lets say you take that cup and beat someone over the head with it, causing hurt and harm, and possibly even death, which would willfully be using it outside of it’s intended use, because a cup is for drinking from, not beating someone over the head with. This is willful sin.

Now when you drop a cup, or you hit someone with it so that it breaks, you can glue it back together, but it’s still not whole like it was when it was first created. It would probably leak, and you just can’t hide the cracks (Brokenness) in the cup no matter how much glue you use. The only way you can make a broken cup truly whole again, is reforming it and making it a new cup again. That seems impossible to us, but it’s something only God can do.

The bible says we are a “***new creation***” in Christ Jesus, our old brokenness is not just glued back together, but we become a new vessel for His glory. No matter how mild our sin is (unknowingly) or how severe it is (committed on purpose, knowingly)

† **2 Corinthians 5:17** *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

“Old things are passed away”, Not just the old sin or uncleanness that you committed unwilfully or unknowingly, but all those ***old things*** (sins) that you did on purpose, knowingly and wanted to do them despite how bad they were.

We are all washed of our uncleanness when we come to Jesus and give our life to Him, but not only that, we are also made new of our brokenness (sin). We were vessels of dishonor, yet Jesus died for us so that we would become new vessels of honor. There is no brokenness or no amount of uncleanness or down right disgusting sin that we committed in the past that He cannot make us new with His shed blood on the cross. But in order to make a broken vessel new again, it must be put back into the potters hands, and the only way you can be made brand new from your brokenness (sins) is to put yourself into the hands of the Father.

† **2 Timothy 2:20-21** *But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.*