

ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE

TITLE: Contaminated Water

OBJECT: Bottle of water

DOCTRINE: Sanctification

STORY WITH THE OBJECT

Almost everyone who visits Mexico gets sick. The water isn't very pure. In fact, it's contaminated. The digestive system of those who don't live there are not used to the small bacteria, so they get sick.

TRANSITION TO THE SPIRITUAL

That makes me think about our lives. We are drinking contaminated water and in the end we will face severe consequences. I'm not talking about real water, but rather about the things in this life that contaminate the soul.

THE PROBLEM (LAW)

Someone hurts us, and we don't forgive them. Unforgiveness contaminates our soul. We also contaminate our soul with lying, stealing, disobedience to authority, rebellion, witchcraft, idolatry, etc. All of these things contaminate our soul.

THE CONSEQUENCES (ETERNITY)

The day we die and stand before God, we will have to show God the state of our soul. And if it's contaminated, we will not be able to spend eternity with him in a perfect heaven that he has prepared for us (where there are mansions, streets of gold, and crystal clear seas - too beautiful for human description). Instead, we will have to be far from there; in a place which is completely opposite of heaven, away from God and everything good - a place called hell.

THE SOLUTION (CROSS)

Now I have good news for you. Jesus said he was the living water, and that he could satisfy our thirsty soul. He lived on this earth without ever contaminating himself. On the cross, he took all of our contamination on himself, and paid the price for it with his blood. For that reason, he can offer us living water, and cleanse us from our impurities.

THE CALL (REPENTANCE AND FAITH)

But we have call out to him and ask him to remove all the contamination from our soul. Repent, ask him for forgiveness, and trust him to make you clean. Surrender your life to Him so He can help you live in purity.