

## THE POLLUTED AND THE PURE

scripture: Revelation 8:11-12; 22:1-2

### Introduction

Pollution has been called the "silent assassin". In numerous ways, pollutants work their way into our bodies to work death and destruction. Sin can be equally as silent and just as deadly.

### I. The polluted

#### A. Prophetic significance

##### 1. Ecological imbalance

...the river shall be wasted and dried up, and they shall turn the rivers far away,

The fishers also shall mourn, and all they that cast angle into the brooks shall lament, and they that spread nets upon the waters shall languish.

Isaiah 19:5-6, 8

##### 2. Environmental pollution

The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.

Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate; therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men are left.

Isaiah 24:5-6

#### B. The greatest source of pollution--SIN

...they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinances, broken the everlasting covenant.

Isaiah 24:5b

I. The polluted

B. The greatest source of pollution--SIN

1. Soul pollution

a. Man created in a pure environment

b. Sin polluted that environment

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear;

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Isaiah 59:1-2

2. sin's defilement

a. Like a carbon fleck in an otherwise perfect diamond

b. Makes one unacceptable

C. The result of soul pollution

The soul that sinneth, it shall die.

Ezekiel 18:4

...and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.

Revelation 8:11

II. The pure

A. Man cannot cope with or purify sin

B. The purifying process at Calvary

But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:7, 9

II. The pure

C. Life linked with purity

And he shewed me a pure river of  
water of life, clear as crystal, proceed-  
ing out of the throne of God and the Lamb.

— Rowan Huddleston Revelation 22:1