

# Job 14:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.

## Analysis

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Job asks 'Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.' This recognition of inherited depravity predates full biblical revelation yet captures the doctrine of original sin. The rhetorical question expects no answer - human effort cannot overcome fundamental corruption.

## Historical Context

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Ancient purity codes recognized ritual uncleanness, but Job speaks metaphysically about moral inability. This anticipates Christ as the only clean one who can cleanse others (Hebrews 7:26).

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does recognition of inherent uncleanness drive you toward grace?
2. What hope exists if no one can bring clean from unclean?

## Interlinear Text

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מִי	יָבִי	טָהוֹר	מִטְמֵא	לֹא	אֶחָד:
H4310	Who can bring	a clean	thing out of an unclean	H3808	not one
	H5414	H2889	H2931		H259

## Additional Cross-References

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**John 3:6** (Parallel theme): That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

**Job 15:14** (Parallel theme): What is man, that he should be clean? and he which is born of a woman, that he should be righteous?

**Psalms 51:5** (Parallel theme): Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

**Ephesians 2:3** (Parallel theme): Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

**Romans 5:12** (Parallel theme): Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: