

# The Bluebottle Fly

The Christian worship service is over and tea and biscuits are being served as the congregation fellowship with each other.

You are in deep conversation with another member, and as you listen intently to what they are saying, you raise your cup of tea to your lips and are about to take a gulp when you glance down, horror of horrors, there paddling around in your cup of tea is a gigantic bluebottle fly.

What is your reaction?

1 Immediate total rejection of that cup of tea, but will this put you off tea forever?

When the cup has been thoroughly washed, you will quite happily have another cup of tea in the same cup.

2 You and all who hears of this event will be looking for bluebottle flies in their tea from then onwards!

**The Creator God can use even simple events like this to teach us.**

**Ecclesiastes 10:1** [New King James] *“Dead flies putrefy the perfumer’s ointment, and cause it to give off a foul odour; so does a little folly to one respected for wisdom and honour.”*

Dead flies [or swimming bluebottle flies] can cause what is good to putrefy, become morally corrupt as one dictionary gives as the use of this word.

**One sinner in a fellowship can destroy the reputation of the whole group, [Ecclesiastes 9:18].**

**James 2:10** [New King James] *“For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.”*

**One person’s sin can affect many others for good, through the correction they receive from God, or for bad through a wrong example.**

**Joshua 7:1-20** the story of Achan is an example of how one person in one family can bring shame on the whole nation of over two million people.

**Our one sin can affect the image of the whole Christian Church in the eyes of non-Christians.**

**Every personal Christian has been called to be a “role model” for the Creator God’s way of life, and our personal, sinful actions will not be taken lightly by God.**

**1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 25-27** [New King James] *“For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.” ... “that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honoured, all the members rejoice with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.”*

Right at the top of the Christian family worldwide is God the Father and our misconduct can open Him up to shame and ridicule from His many enemies.

We need to read **Job 1:6-8** and ask what type of report reaches God’s throne about us.

**If we consider any sin in our lives as repulsive as that bluebottle fly in our tea and reject it through confession and repentance, then the report that Jesus Christ and God the Father receive will be similar to that of the righteous Job.**

Such a report will **not** bring shame on our Heavenly Father, or Jesus Christ and the rest of the Christian family.