

Be Holy Unto The Lord

July 3, 2016

HOLINESS REQUIRED

1 Peter 1:15 NASB

15 BUT LIKE THE HOLY ONE WHO CALLED YOU, BE HOLY (*hagios - set apart exclusively for God, prepared for God, sacred, consecrated, pure, blameless*) **YOURSELVES ALSO IN ALL YOUR BEHAVIOR;**

16 because it is written, "**YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.**"

"HOLINESS IS FOR THE SPIRITUALLY ELITE..."

Holiness is not sinless perfection nor perfect behavior. Holiness is a relentless pursuit to know God, regardless of the failures.

Many times the greatest evidence of holiness is not sinlessness, but the refusal to give up pursuing God in the midst of sin and failure.

What is required is your surrender to the process of becoming holy, called sanctification. Sanctification must be established and ever growing in your heart and life.

Acts 13:22 NASB

"...He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after my heart, who will do all My will.'"

Luke 22:31-32 NASB

*31 "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat;
32 but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."*

"HOLINESS IS LEGALISM..."

The requirement for holiness is not a contradiction of salvation by faith and not works.

Salvation is by faith alone and likewise sanctification is by faith alone. Both are gifts from God to be received, never earned. Neither are the result of our works or striving.

Hebrews 13:20-21 NASB

20 Now the God of peace...

21 equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

"GOD WILL ALWAYS ACCEPT ME AS I AM, WHETHER I CHANGE OR NOT..."

Salvation is always "come as you are" but is never "stay as you are."

Salvation by faith and not works does not change God's nature of absolute purity and holiness. Salvation by faith and not works does not change the fact that two cannot walk together unless they be agreed. Salvation by faith and not works does not change the fact that there is no fellowship between light and darkness.

Hebrews 12:14 NASB

"Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification (hagiasmos - the process of becoming holy, the effect of consecration) without which no one will see the Lord."

"Holiness, as taught in the Scriptures, is not based upon knowledge on our part. Rather, it is based upon the resurrected Christ in-dwelling us and changing us into His likeness."

— A.W. Tozer (Preparing for Jesus' Return: Daily Live the Blessed Hope)

1 Thessalonians 4:1-5 NASB

1 Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as **YOU RECEIVED FROM US INSTRUCTION AS TO HOW YOU OUGHT TO WALK AND PLEASE GOD** (just as you actually do walk), **THAT YOU EXCEL STILL MORE.**

2 For you know **WHAT COMMANDMENTS WE GAVE YOU BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE LORD JESUS.**

3 **FOR THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD, YOUR SANCTIFICATION** (*hagiasmos - the process of becoming holy, the effect of consecration*); **that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality;**

4 **THAT EACH OF YOU KNOW HOW TO POSSESS HIS OWN VESSEL IN SANCTIFICATION AND HONOR,**

5 **NOT IN LUSTFUL PASSION,** like the Gentiles who do not know God;

Ephesians 1:3-5 NASB

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **WHO HAS BLESSED US WITH EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES IN CHRIST,**

4 **JUST AS HE CHOSE US IN HIM BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD, THAT WE WOULD BE HOLY AND BLAMELESS BEFORE HIM. IN LOVE**

5 **HE PREDESTINED US TO ADOPTION AS SONS THROUGH JESUS CHRIST TO HIMSELF,** according to the kind intention of His will.

HOLINESS DEFINED

1. *Holiness is a relationship, not a behavior. Holiness is a relationship which separates us from all that is carnal, sinful and evil, and separates us to God.*

Isaiah 30:21-22 NASB

21 *Your ears will hear a word behind you, "This is the way, walk in it," whenever you turn to the right or to the left.*

22 *And you will defile your graven images overlaid with silver, and your molten images plated with gold. You will scatter them as an impure thing, and say to them, "Be gone!"*

2. *The separation of holiness is separation in relationship, not proximity.*

John 17:15-16 NASB

15 *"I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one.*

16 *"They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*

3. *Holiness is very simply separation for consecration, or a setting apart.*
- a. *Separation from all that is carnal, sinful and evil.*
 - b. *Separation unto God: His heart, His purity, His will, His purposes.*

2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1 NASB

14 DO NOT BE BOUND TOGETHER WITH UNBELIEVERS; FOR WHAT PARTNERSHIP HAVE RIGHTEOUSNESS AND LAWLESSNESS, OR WHAT FELLOWSHIP HAS LIGHT WITH DARKNESS?

15 OR WHAT HARMONY HAS CHRIST WITH BELIAL, OR WHAT HAS A BELIEVER IN COMMON WITH AN UNBELIEVER?

16 OR WHAT AGREEMENT HAS THE TEMPLE OF GOD WITH IDOLS? FOR WE ARE THE TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD; JUST AS GOD SAID, "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.

17 "THEREFORE, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE (*aphorizo - to mark off by boundaries, to limit, separate, set apart for a purpose, to exclude*)," **SAYS THE LORD. "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; AND I WILL WELCOME YOU.**

18 "AND I WILL BE A FATHER TO YOU, AND YOU SHALL BE SONS AND DAUGHTERS TO ME," SAYS THE LORD ALMIGHTY.

1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, **LET US CLEANSE OURSELVES FROM ALL DEFILEMENT OF FLESH AND SPIRIT, PERFECTING** (*epiteleo - to fulfill further, undergo, execute, accomplish, complete, bring to an end*) **HOLINESS IN THE FEAR OF GOD.**

Ephesians 5:3-8 NASB

3 **BUT IMMORALITY** (*porneia - any illicit sexual relationship*) **OR ANY IMPURITY** (*akatharsia - uncleanness, impure motives, lustful or reckless lifestyle*) **OR GREED** (*pleonexia - covetousness, greedy for more*) **MUST NOT EVEN BE NAMED AMONG YOU, AS IS PROPER AMONG SAINTS** ("holy ones" or "separate ones" - occurs 61 times in the NT - *hagios - set apart exclusively for God, prepared for God, sacred, consecrated, pure, blameless*);

4 **AND THERE MUST BE NO FILTHINESS** (*aischrotēs - obscenity, baseness, dishonor, shameful*) **AND SILLY TALK** (*mōrologia - buffoonery, acting like a clown, foolish talking*), **OR COARSE JESTING** (*eutrapelia - low, base or vulgar jesting*), **WHICH ARE NOT FITTING, BUT RATHER GIVING OF THANKS.**

5 **FOR THIS YOU KNOW WITH CERTAINTY, THAT NO IMMORAL OR IMPURE PERSON OR COVETOUS MAN, WHO IS AN IDOLATER, HAS AN INHERITANCE IN THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST AND GOD.**

6 **LET NO ONE DECEIVE YOU WITH EMPTY WORDS, FOR BECAUSE OF THESE THINGS THE WRATH OF GOD COMES UPON THE SONS OF DISOBEDIENCE.**

7 **THEREFORE DO NOT BE PARTAKERS WITH THEM.**

8 **FOR YOU WERE FORMERLY DARKNESS, BUT NOW YOU ARE LIGHT IN THE LORD; WALK AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT.**

HOLINESS AND THE FEAR OF GOD

2 Corinthians 7:1 NASB

1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, **LET US CLEANSE OURSELVES FROM ALL DEFILEMENT OF FLESH AND SPIRIT, PERFECTING HOLINESS IN THE FEAR OF GOD.**

1 Peter 1:14-19 NASB

14 **AS OBEDIENT CHILDREN, DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THE FORMER LUSTS WHICH WERE YOURS IN YOUR IGNORANCE,**

15 **BUT LIKE THE HOLY ONE WHO CALLED YOU, BE HOLY** (*hagios - set apart exclusively for God, prepared for God, sacred, consecrated, pure, blameless*) **YOURSELVES ALSO IN ALL YOUR BEHAVIOR;**

16 because it is written, "**YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.**"

17 **IF YOU ADDRESS AS FATHER THE ONE WHO IMPARTIALLY JUDGES ACCORDING TO EACH ONE'S WORK, CONDUCT YOURSELVES IN FEAR DURING THE TIME OF YOUR STAY ON EARTH;**

18 **KNOWING THAT YOU WERE NOT REDEEMED WITH PERISHABLE THINGS** like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers,

19 **BUT WITH PRECIOUS BLOOD, AS OF A LAMB UNBLEMISHED AND SPOTLESS, THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.**

1 Corinthians 3:16-20 NASB

16 Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

17 **IF ANY MAN DESTROYS** (*phtheirō - to corrupt, defile, perish, destroy*) **THE TEMPLE OF GOD, GOD WILL DESTROY HIM, FOR THE TEMPLE OF GOD IS HOLY, AND THAT IS WHAT YOU ARE.**

18 **LET NO MAN DECEIVE HIMSELF. IF ANY MAN AMONG YOU THINKS THAT HE IS WISE IN THIS AGE, HE MUST BECOME FOOLISH, SO THAT HE MAY BECOME WISE.**

19 **FOR THE WISDOM OF THIS WORLD IS FOOLISHNESS BEFORE GOD.** FOR IT IS WRITTEN, "HE IS THE ONE WHO CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR CRAFTINESS";

20 AND AGAIN, "THE LORD KNOWS THE REASONINGS OF THE WISE, THAT THEY ARE USELESS."

2 Peter 3:10-14 NASB

10 **BUT THE DAY OF THE LORD WILL COME LIKE A THIEF, IN WHICH THE HEAVENS WILL PASS AWAY WITH A ROAR AND THE ELEMENTS WILL BE DESTROYED WITH INTENSE HEAT, AND THE EARTH AND ITS WORKS WILL BE BURNED UP.**

11 **SINCE ALL THESE THINGS ARE TO BE DESTROYED IN THIS WAY, WHAT SORT OF PEOPLE OUGHT YOU TO BE IN HOLY CONDUCT AND GODLINESS,**

12 **LOOKING FOR AND HASTENING THE COMING OF THE DAY OF GOD,** because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!

13 But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

14 **THEREFORE, BELOVED, SINCE YOU LOOK FOR THESE THINGS, BE DILIGENT TO BE FOUND BY HIM IN PEACE, SPOTLESS AND BLAMELESS.**