

The Miraculous Essence of Holiness

May 13, 2018

MADE HOLY BY RELATIONSHIP

Ephesians 3:14-21 ESV

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,
15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named,
16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being,
17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith--that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,
19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge (gnosis), that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us,
21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

John 11:41-43 ESV

41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me.
42 I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me."
43 When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."

What makes holiness so compelling, so attractive and so beautiful is that God has singled me out to be separate unto Him, because He wants me all to Himself.

MADE HOLY BY THE POWER OF TANGIBLE GRACE *(perceptible by the senses especially the sense of touch)*

"God's grace does not mean that God benignly accepts humans in all their fallenness, forgives them, and then leaves them in that fallenness. God is in the business not of whitewashing sins but of transforming sinners."

—David Garland, Christian Pastor, Author

"Grace is not simply leniency when we have sinned. Grace is the enabling gift of God not to sin. Grace is power, not just pardon. Therefore the effort we make to obey God is not an effort done in our own strength, but in the strength which God supplies."

—John Piper

1 Corinthians 15:8-10 ESV

8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.
9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

10 **But by the grace** (*charis - favor, good will, lovingkindness, the spiritual condition of one governed by the power of divine grace*) **of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.**

Luke 8:45-46 ESV

45 And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!"

46 But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me."

Luke 6:19 ESV

19 And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

Galatians 2:20 ESV

20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.

Colossians 1:28-29 ESV

28 Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

29 For this I toil, struggling with all his energy (*energeia - "in the NT used only of superhuman power"*) **that he powerfully** (*dynamis - miraculous, power for performing miracles*) **works** (*energeō - be at work, put forth power, show one's self operative*) **within me.**

MADE HOLY BY ZEALOUS PURSUIT

Hebrews 12:14 ESV

14 **Strive** (*dioko - to run swiftly in order to catch, pursue, to press on*) **for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.**

Titus 2:14 ESV

14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession **who are zealous** (*zealous - zelotes - burning with zeal, jealous of any rival, most eagerly desirous*) **for good works.**

James 2:14 ESV

14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone **says he has faith** but **does not have works?** **Can that faith save him?**

Hebrews 2:1 ESV

1 Therefore **we must pay much closer attention** to what we have heard, **lest we drift away from it.**

Hebrews 12:1 ESV

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us also lay aside every weight,** and

sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

2 Peter 1:2-11 ESV

2 **May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge** (*epignosis - precise and correct knowledge, full discernment, true knowledge*) **of God and of Jesus our Lord.**

3 **His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge** (*epignosis - precise and correct knowledge, full discernment, true knowledge*) **of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,**

4 **by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.**

5 **For this very reason, make every effort** (*NASB - "apply all diligence"*) **to supplement your faith with virtue** (*arete - excellence, moral excellence, purity*), **and virtue with knowledge** (*gnosis - the act of knowing*),

6 **and knowledge with self-control** (*egkrateia - one who masters his desires and passions*), **and self-control with steadfastness** (*hypomone - constancy, endurance, perseverance*), **and steadfastness with godliness** (*eusebeia - piety towards God, holiness*),

7 **and godliness with brotherly affection** (*philadelphia - love of the brethren, cherish, fraternal affection*), **and brotherly affection with love.**

1 John 2:19 ESV

19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.

8 **For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

9 **For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.**

10 **Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.**

11 **For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

MADE HOLY BY ABSOLUTE AND UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

Romans 6:11-22 ESV

11 **So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

12 **Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions.**

13 **Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.**

14 **For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.**

15 **What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!**

16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

17 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed,

18 and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

19 I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

21 But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.

22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.