

Holiness – Part 1

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I. Introduction.

A. God has called every Christian to a holy life. (1 Peter 1:15-16)

II. To be holy is to be formed to the blameless moral character of God. (Isaiah 6; 57:15; 1 John 1:5; John 3)

A. God hates sin. (Habakkuk 1:3)

B. We must have a God-centered viewpoint of sin. (Psalm 119:104)

III. Holiness is not an option for the Christian. (Hebrews 12:14; Titus 3:5; Isaiah 64:6)

A. Salvation is a call to be holy. (1 Corinthians 1:2)

B. The grace of God teaches us to say no to sin and yes to a holy life. (Titus 2:11-12; John 3; Titus 3; Ephesians 1:4)

IV. The holiness of Jesus Christ.

A. Even righteous men cry woe at the holiness of God. (Isaiah 6)

B. Jesus Christ has provided us with imputed righteousness.

V. The Bible teaches both faith and obedience. (Philippians 2:12-13)

A. We are responsible for salvation.

B. God has made provision for salvation.

VI. In Christ we died to sin. (Romans 6:1-12)

A. We were in the kingdom of sin before we were Christians. (Acts 26:18; Colossians 1:13; Romans 6:17)

B. When we identified with Christ, we died to sin's reign and were brought into the kingdom of grace.

C. We have died to sin's reign but not its influences. The Spirit is at war with the flesh. (Galatians 5:17)

D. We must count on being removed from sin's reign.

VII. How to battle sin's power.

A. In our union with Christ, we have the same power. (John 15)

B. The Holy Spirit helps us. (Philippians 4:13)

1. He enables us to see our sin. (Jeremiah 17:9; James 1:22)

2. He gives us the right desire.

3. He gives us power. (Galatians 5:17)

C. You can live a holy life.

Application questions:

1. How should we reconcile the tension between faith and obedience?

2. If we have died to sin, why do we still struggle with it?

3. What is your action plan for growing in holiness this week? Explain.
