

Holiness

Jerry Bridges

I. Introduction. (Ephesians 3:8)

- A. Of all God's attributes, he highlights his goodness and glory the most. (Exodus 33)
- B. God places tremendous importance to his holiness. (Isaiah 6; Revelation 4:8)
- C. God expects us to be holy in all that we do. (1 Peter 1:15-16)
- D. Holiness is conformity to God's moral character. (1 John 1:5)
- E. We are to pursue holiness in this life. (Ephesians 4:22-24)
- F. Pursuing holiness is a joint work between God and man. (Philippians 2:12-13; Psalm 127:1)
- G. By the nature of salvation, it is impossible for a Christian to want to continue in sin because he has been purchased into a new kingdom. (Romans 6:1ff; 5:21; Acts 26:18; Colossians 1:13)
 - 1. Through the death of Christ, we have died to the kingdom of sin.
 - 2. We have been transferred into the kingdom of sin.
- H. We have a part in holiness. (Hebrews 12)

II. Convictions.

- A. We must get our convictions out of the Bible. (Ephesians 5:8-10, 17; Titus 1:1; 2 Timothy 3:16)
 - 1. The Bible is useful for teaching us.
 - 2. It is useful for reproving.
 - 3. It is useful for correcting.
 - 4. The Bible trains us.
- B. An example. (Philippians 2:3-4; Ephesians 4:28)

III. Commitment.

- A. A belief is what you hold. A commitment holds you.
- B. We must make a commitment not to sin. (Titus 2:11-12)
- C. We must resolve ourselves to make certain commitments in specific temptation as well. (Job 31:1)

D. We must make a decision to reaffirm commitments when we face temptations again. (Romans 6:13)

IV. Choices.

A. Saying no requires discipline. (1 Timothy 4:7; Hebrews 5:14; 12:11)

B. It is possible to train ourselves in every direction. (2 Peter 2:14)

C. You are going to be what you are now becoming.

D. Discipline requires perseverance. (Hebrews 12:15)

E. Discipline is necessary because there will be discouragement and failure. (Hebrews 12:12; Galatians 2; Hebrews 4:16; 2 Timothy 2:1)

Application questions:

1. How will you go about gaining and affirming your convictions this week?

2. What are some wrong ways to go about growing in holiness?

3. Why does our motivation matter when we are considering holiness? Explain.
