

Pursuit of Holiness – Part 2

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I. Introduction.

A. God has made provision for our holiness. (2 Peter 1:3)

B. Text: Romans 6.

II. What God has done.

A. We are united with Jesus in his death in order that we might walk in holiness.

B. Dying to sin means being removed from the kingdom of sin and Satan to the kingdom of grace and God's Son. (Romans 5:21; Acts 26:18; Colossians 1:13; Romans 6:9-10)

C. The Son of God voluntarily identified with our sin so that we could be free from its hold. (Ephesians 2:1-3)

D. What happened to Jesus happened to us. We were crucified with him, and we died to the kingdom of sin. (Acts 26:18)

E. We have a new citizenship because of the death of Christ.

F. Our change of status makes a change in behavior possible.

1. We are to offer ourselves to God instead of as instruments of sin because of our status.
2. We must count on that we have been delivered from the dominion of sin.
3. We must count on that we are alive to God and have access to his influences.
4. The pursuit of holiness is hard work, but it is a work of faith. This is what distinguishes Christianity from moralism.

III. What God is doing.

A. All the influences of the kingdom of God have been brought to bear on us.

B. God has sent his own Spirit to live in us. (Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Colossians 3:18)

1. The Spirit teaches us truth. (1 Corinthians 3:12)
2. The Spirit gives us the right desires. (Romans 7:22; Philippians 2:13)
3. The Spirit uses certain means such as...
 - a. Providential circumstances. (Romans 8:28-29)
 - b. Pastors and teachers for growth. (Titus 1:1)

c. Scripture itself. (John 17:17)

d. Prayer. (Hebrews 4:16)

e. Discipline. (Hebrews 12:6)

Application questions:

1. How would you differentiate our responsibility and God's responsibility in our holiness?

2. What are some of the resources we have as Christians for holiness?

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