

Come let us Grow Together: Holiness

Come let us Grow Together is a weekly series that deals with the many topical categories that exist within the Word of God. The purpose of this series is to grow in wisdom, knowledge, and understanding in things pertaining to God.

1 Peter 1:15-16

15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;

16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Here we are told that not only must we be Holy, but God is Holy and our conversation should also be Holy.

So what does it mean to be Holy?? According to the Compact Bible Dictionary by Nelson's Compact Series, the word holy means: Moral and ethical wholeness or perfection; freedom from moral evil. The Hebrew word for Holy denotes that which is "sanctified" or "set apart" for divine service. The main use is to describe God's righteous nature or the ethical righteousness demanded of His followers.

Holiness is so important to God, that He not only let's us know that we must also be Holy, but we are told in.....

Hebrews 12:14

14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

Therefore Holiness is Essential to Salvation.

As we have learned from the definition of Holy we must be sanctified or set apart; with moral wholeness or perfection; free from moral evil.

This is also a good time to explain that Righteousness and Holiness are not the same thing. We are told in.....

Romans 5:17

17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

Righteousness is a free Gift of God imputed to us after we have shown obedient faith to what God has commanded of us. This obedient faith is shown by putting forth the action necessary to achieve what we have claimed to have believed of God.

So we do not earn righteousness or obtain it as if it were a debt earned by us from our works. Instead it is freely given as a Gift for our obedience to God's Word. Holiness on the other hand, is something we perfect over time as we make our journey to the Lord.

Before you begin to work on perfecting Holiness, you must first partake of being born again, as Jesus commanded His followers to do, so that they would be able to enter the Kingdom of God.

Please refer to the Salvation Links on our Website for further instructions on this topic. From this point forward, we will be speaking as if you have been born again, with the evidence of speaking in another tongue as the Spirit has given the utterance.

2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

This is where our Journey takes us after we have been Born Again of the water and of the Spirit. A Life of separation, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. A life of moral excellence now dead or separated from the World and the lusts thereof. No longer fulfilling the lusts of the flesh, but now walking after the Spirit of Christ which now resides inside of us.

Even though God has chosen to save us by His Grace, many people have turned the Grace of God into lasciviousness. Let's quickly get an understanding of what the grace of God teaches us since many false teachers have distorted the meaning.

Titus 2:11-13

11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

Sounds a whole lot like what we have already been discussing. That is after being Born again, we are to live a separated life from the world perfecting Holiness in the fear of God. These are the instructions for how to pursue a Holy Life. Deny ungodliness and worldly lusts. Then live soberly, righteously, and godly.