Connections and Comparisons is an ongoing weekly series that deals with many scriptures in the Bible, some of which are not commonly addressed. The purpose of this series is to examine the scriptures at hand comparing what is said and looking at the connections within.

Hebrews 12:14

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

If you do not follow after peace with all men, and holiness, you will not be saved. God commands us to be holy and is therefore a part of our salvation. We are to be holy in all manner of communication, behavior, and conduct even as God is holy.

1 Peter 1:14-16 14 As **obedient children**, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

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.

To be holy we must conform ourselves to God's character. His holy nature. We must love what He loves and hate what He hates and think the thoughts that would align up to His thoughts as we are taught throughout the Bible, God's only Holy Word.

To live a holy life we must not be conformed to this world but rather transformed from it. We must separate ourselves from sin and the things of the world while being dedicated to God and reaching out to the lost even as Jesus Christ did.

Romans 12:1-2

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

2 Corinthians 6:17-7:1

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.

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.

As followers of Christ and that of God we as Christians must not love the things of this world, nor allow ourselves to become attached to it, nor to take part of the sinful pleasures and activities

of this world. This is a commandment of God. If we are not holy as He is holy then we will not be saved. This is not optional. This is a promise of God.

James 1:27

27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

You must come "come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing" and "present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service". You must not be "conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind". "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" keeping yourself "unspotted from the world."

James 4:4

4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

The friendship of the world is enmity with God. It is the enemy of God and if you live in it and partake of it you will suffer the wrath of God!

1 John 2:15-17

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

We must avoid "the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life". We must not love the world, or "the love of the Father is not in him." Holiness is Part of Salvation. You must discipline yourself and abstain from all appearance of evil.

1 Thessalonians 5:22

22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

We must so run that we too may obtain, but we must be "temperate in all things" and understand that we must keep our bodies under subjection to Jesus Christ and the Word of God.

26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

Holiness is Part of Salvation. Holiness is both inward and outward.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God **your whole spirit and soul** and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Holiness is not to be ignored or to be assumed by your own interpretations of what holiness is when the scriptures identify to you what holiness is and what manner of person you ought to be "perfecting holiness in the fear of God". As you can see you are bought with a price if you are Christ's, "therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

If you do not live a holy life God will destroy you! For "the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are" "and ye are not your own" "therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

Holiness includes your thoughts, attitudes, and your physical appearance. Your physical appearance is a reflection of what is on the inside. What your thoughts and attitudes are is reflected in your outward appearance. This is not to say that you can not deceive man and reflect an outward appearance of holiness while you are corrupt and foul on the inside.

Matthew 23:25-28

25 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess.

26 Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness.

28 Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

God expects us to grow spiritually, to grow in grace and the knowledge of Him that saved us, and to produce fruit continually.

2 Peter 3:18

18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

John 15:1-8

1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

5 I am the vine, **ye are the branches**: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

Holiness is not to be confused with works salvation, but rather seen as the scriptures have revealed, part of salvation. "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:" (Heb 12:14)

If you truly love God you will keep His commandments and you will also desire to be pleasing in His sight. It will be your pleasure to obey Him and keep His commandments.

1 John 5:3

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

We are told that everything we do is to be done to the glory of God, whether in word or deed is to be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, and our love is to be expressed in deed and truth.

1 Corinthians 10:31

31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

Colossians 3:17

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

1 John 3:18

18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. We must not walk after the flesh but after the Spirit! We must bring our thoughts under subjection and to the obedience of Jesus Christ! This in turn will bring our thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors under subjection and to the obedience of Jesus Christ! Holiness is Part of Salvation!

Romans 8:1

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Galatians 5:16-26

16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

1 John 2:15-17

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

Your outward appearance reflects your inner self and "all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

Deuteronomy 22:5

5 The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.

Regardless of what society and culture teaches "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God."

1 Peter 3:1-7

1 Likewise, ye wives, **be in subjection** to your own husbands; that, <mark>if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;</mark>

2 While they behold your **chaste conversation coupled with fear**.

3 Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;

4 But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:

6 Even as **Sara obeyed Abraham**, calling him lord: **whose daughters ye are**, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

7 Likewise, ye husbands, **dwell with them according to knowledge**, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

1 Timothy 2:8-15

8 I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. 9 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;

10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.

11 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection.

12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

Luke 6:43-44

43 For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

44 For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes.

Luke 3:9

9 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.