

Holiness

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I. Introduction.

- A. God has called every Christian to a holy life. (1 Peter 1:14-16)
- B. The concept of holiness has fallen into disfavor, but it is woven into the fabric of Scriptures.
- C. Holiness is moral blamelessness and separation to God in conduct. It is not sinning, and it is doing what is pleasing to God. (1 John 2:1; John 8:29)
- D. God hates sin. (Habakkuk 1:13; Zechariah 8:17)
- E. There is no heaven without holiness. (Hebrews 12:14; Titus 2:11-12)

II. Reasons we are not more holy.

- A. We simply have not committed ourselves to fully obeying God. (1 John 2:1)
- B. We have a self-centered view of the consequences of sin.
- C. We do not take some sin seriously. (Song of Solomon 2:15; Luke 16:10)

III. God has made provision for us to walk in holiness, but he has given us responsibility of doing the walking. (Romans 6:11)

- A. We must both trust and work to put to death the sinful deeds of the body. (Romans 8:13)
- B. If we are to destroy the sinful life, we must have...
 - 1. Conviction that God wants us to live a holy life and convictions about specific areas of life. (Romans 13:6)
 - 2. Commitment.
 - 3. Personal discipline. We structure our lives to be holy. (2 Timothy 3:16)
 - 4. Perseverance. (Proverbs 24:16)

IV. Conclusion. (John 15:10-11)

Application questions:

1. What reason for a lack of holiness resonates with you?

2. How can we be responsible for holiness and yet not credited for achieving it?

3. What can you do differently this week to structure your life for holiness? Explain.
