Pursue Holiness: Part 1

Zanesville, OH | June 10, 2018 | Sermon Notes

**Foundational Scripture:** Heb. 12:14

**Intro**:

* In a lot of ways this sermon is a continuation of what we talked about last week. Secret Atheism is all around us and a significant problem for every disciple. The proper way to counter that problem is to be proactive. To be proactive is to be holy! Without holiness (walking in newness of life), no one will see God.

**What does it mean to be Holy?**

1. **Conforming to God’s Image: (Rom. 8:29-30)**
   * God is the principle embodiment of what it means to be holy (Isa. 6:1-3; Rev. 4:8). He is absolutely holy in terms of His majesty and perfection. He is ethically superior above all creation and all else (Hos. 11:9). We cannot fully fathom the utter holiness of God, yet we have a glimpse of it that can allow us to become partakers of the divine nature (2 Pet. 1:4). A follower must embody the properties of their master and such is the case when it comes to being holy as God is holy.
     1. **We are set apart**
        1. Through Jesus’ blood we are sanctified via baptism (1 Cor. 6:11; 2 Thess. 2:13; Tit. 2:14; Heb. 9:14; 10:10).
        2. Once sanctified, we are called to be separated from sin and we are to serve God. Just as God is set apart so we too ought to strive to be set apart (Lev. 11:44-45; 19:2; 20:7, 26; 21:8; Jn. 17:14-16; 2 Cor. 6:14-18; Eph. 4:1; 2 Tim. 1:9; 1 Pet. 1:15-16).
     2. **Being spiritually focused**
        1. If we want to be holy, if we want to see God then we must be spiritually focused (Matt. 15:18; Jn. 17:17; Rom. 12:2; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 4:22-24; Col. 3:1-3).
        2. Set spirituals goals for yourselves. How often do you work out to achieve these goals? Are you determined to grow and imitate God to be holy as He is holy (Eph. 4:25, 32; 5:1-2; Phil. 4:8; 1 Thess. 5:17; Col. 3:12-17; 2 Pet. 1:5-10)?

**Re-evaluating my life**

1. I must lead a life of holiness if I want to see God.
2. Be an example to others and let your light shine.
3. Make a conscious effort to spend more time with God; less with the world.