Pursue Holiness: Part 2

Zanesville, OH | June 17, 2018 | Sermon Notes

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

**Intro**:

* If someone were to walk up and ask you, *“What does it mean to be a Christian?”* how would you respond to that? Perhaps the best way to answer that question would be to show them by your actions. Living a life of holiness. Standing out as a bright beacon of light. A clearly distinguishable individual not because of mere appearances but because of the actions embodying truth, justice, righteousness and love.

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

1. **Conforming to God’s Image: (Rom. 8:29-30)**
   * To be holy is to conform to the image of Jesus. Remember, God is the principle embodiment of what it means to be holy. Thus, if we call ourselves Christians and believers of God, then we must live up to the description of that title by following our Lord and walk worthily. The characteristics that are true of Him must be true of us otherwise we are secret atheists walking contrary to His gospel.
     1. **Treating sin for what it is**
        1. Sin is the very antithesis of God’s nature (1 Jn. 1:5). Thus, ought to be far removed from us. (Judg. 13-16; Job. 20:5; Gal. 5:17; Jam. 4:4; 1 Jn. 2:15-17).
        2. As a people pursuing holiness we must hate sin because it separates (eternal death) us from God. It prevents us from properly conforming to the image of His Son (Psa. 5:4; 34:14; 97:10; Amos 5:15; Isa. 1:5-6; 59:2; Ezek. 18:4; 20; Rom. 5:12; 6:15-16, 23; 12:9; 1 Thess. 5:5, 22; 1 Pet. 2:9).
     2. **Striving to be pure**
        1. Pursuing holiness is directly proportional with being pure. To be pure is to be free from any contamination. Undefiled, without blemish, no stains, untainted my immorality, free from sin (Psa. 24:3-4; Matt. 5:8; 2 Cor. 7:1-2; Eph. 4:25-32; Phil. 4:8; Col. 3:8-16; Jam. 4:8; 2 Pet. 3:14; 1 Jn. 3:3; Rev. 6:16-17; 7:9, 13-17).
        2. Guard your hearts and your minds. According to Jesus, the epitome of purity, it starts by keeping our hearts in check (Psa. 51:10; Prov. 4:23; Jer. 17:9; Matt. 15:18; Rom. 6:13; 12:1).

**Re-evaluating my life**

1. Put on Christ completely; not partly.
2. Hate sin and make every effort to get rid of it.
3. Guards your hearts and make it your aim to be pure.