



Practical Holiness

(Becoming More Like Your Heavenly Father)

1 Peter 1:14-16

“What is true practical holiness? My account is but a poor and imperfect outline at best:

It is being of one mind with God as he is revealed in Scripture, agreeing with his judgements, hating what he hates, loving what he loves, and measuring everything in this world by the standards of his Word. It is endeavoring to shun every sin and to keep every commandment out of a hearty desire to do His will. It is striving to be like the Lord Jesus

Christ and God the heavenly father. It is bearing with and forgiving others. It is denying one’s self by mortifying bodily desire and curbing sinful passions and carnal inclinations. It is setting affections on things above, and not holding on to the things of the world.”

J.C. Ryle

“The Christian living in disobedience also lives devoid of joy and hope. But when he begins to understand that Christ has delivered him from the reign of sin, when he begins to see that he is united to Him who has all power and authority and that it is possible to walk in obedience, he begins to have hope, and as he hopes in Christ, he begins to have joy. In the strength of this joy, he begins to overcome the sins that have so easily entangle him. He then finds that the joy of a holy walk is infinitely more satisfying than the fleeting pleasures of sin. But to experience this joy, we must make some choices. We must choose to forsake sin, not only because it is defeating to us but because it grieves the heart of God.”

Jerry Bridges

“How little people know who think that holiness is dull.

When one meets the real thing ... it is irresistible. If even 10% of the world’s population had it, would not the whole world be converted and happy before a year’s end?”

C.S. Lewis

I. Holiness **DEFINED**

A. A Definition: God’s unique, utter, complete, total moral perfection and righteousness

a. **Psalm 29** Reflection

b. **Psalm 99** Call to Worship

B. Two Types: 1. **Forensic Holiness (Justification)** *Judicial, Legal, Declared “Fixed Fact!”*

a. **Romans 4:3**

b. **Philippians 3:9**

2. **Practical Holiness (Sanctification)** *Lived out, Practice of Obedience “Waxes/Wanes!”*

a. **1 Peter 1:14-16**

b. **1 Peter 2:1**

II. Holiness **DESCRIBED**

Genesis 3:6 Our Pursuit of *The Good, True, Beautiful* (errant)

Absolute: *Not Qualified in Any Way* ¹⁰⁰

A. Holiness as absolute Goodness

Proverbs 6:16-19

B. Holiness as absolute Beauty

James 3:13-15 “*Kalos*”

C. Holiness as absolute Truthfulness

Like “obedient children” (vs. 14)

III. Holiness **DEMANDED**

A. Without it, *No One will see the LORD* **Hebrews 12:14**

B. The Problem of Antinomianism

“Against the Law!”

C. The *Two Sides* of Gospel Holiness

(J+S: *Don’t truncate the Gospel!*)

1 Peter 1:14-16

14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

Isaiah 6:3

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory."

Romans 4:3 *Justification (Righteousness) by FAITH not by our Works*

What does Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

Philippians 3:9b *Righteousness is by Faith in Christ*

not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.

1 Peter 2:1 *In light of our Justification (1:18-21), be Sanctified!*

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.

Genesis 3:6

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Proverbs 6:16-19

16 There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him:
17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood,
18 a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil,
19 a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.

Hebrews 12:14

Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

Philippians 2:12b-13

.....continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,
13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose