# Holiness

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### Foreword

Without holiness no one can enter heaven as you are defiled by your sin (deliberate disobedience of God) and heaven is holy and undefiled. This is why without the attitude of holiness and its expression you will not see God as you will not be able to come before His throne in heaven because you will not be able to enter heaven where he lives because you would not have strived to be holy.

This is why holiness is so important because without it you do not enter heaven but go to where Satan rules where all that are defiled go when they die.

Our defilement has been dealt with at Calvary through the Redemption of us by Jesus so that we can now enter heaven.

The pursuit of holiness preserves the Christian life so that we are in a relationship with God to be able to enter heaven.

# Preface

#### Why is holiness important?

Holiness is an attitude, a way of approaching life. It is an attitude that is expressed as a lifestyle. God will not look at what you do but at the attitudes you have when you do it. God is not interested in your results but the attitude in which you do them which shows how you relate to Him because eternal life is the result of a relationship with Jesus and The Father and cannot be obtained by our doing anything to obtain it.

It is how we express this relationship that determines how God sees us.

So holiness begins with a change of heart attitude which can really only occur when you see God's Holiness and you desire to be like Him in character and attitude.

Tit 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Our spirit is renewed at Salvation so that we now are spiritually undefiled so that we can properly pursues holiness.

In a sense this is why you cannot approach God unless you are holy because He is Holy and Undefiled and holiness keeps you in the attitudes necessary to avoid things that defile you and prevent you from going to where God is in heaven.

This attitude of complete holiness will only be there if Jesus is the complete Lord of all your life.

Holiness is an attitude of chasing after God and His things and rejecting all around you the things that the enemy (Satan) tried to have you accept. So it requires an effort as you usually either have a demon opposing you trying to stop you in some way pursuing holiness or need to avoid the traps of Satan's smokescreen in the world wide system he has placed all around you.

The world around you is run by Satan who is its god and king and whose aim is to hide Jesus, Heaven, Hell, Satan (himself) and his demons as well as what they do to people in the world as well as The Kingdom of God, Jesus and what He did at Calvary and everything that promotes God. The world system is a smokescreen set up by Satan to hinder or remove your holiness and stop your getting to heaven.

Satan's primary objective is to destroy the salvation relationship you have with Jesus and The Father in any way he can.

Holiness is required to go to heaven and be with God. If you do not pursue holiness then you are following the things of Satan, even if only because you are not doing the things God requires you to do.

This is why most of the world's media which is guided by Satan promotes mostly things that lead to unholiness or distract or draw you from your relationship with Jesus.

Its always one or the other. If you are not doing the Will of God then by default you are doing the will of Satan for you.

A person living a holy life expresses the character of God in all they do (or at least try too), of which the primary Character is His Quality of Love and all that flows from its expression in our lives.

The Greek word for 'holiness' is based on the Greek word for 'Piety' which is a lifestyle in which a person seeks the Will of God in all they do!

## Verses on holiness in the New Testament.

- Luk\_1:75 In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.
- Act\_3:12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?
- Rom\_1:4 And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:
- Rom\_6:19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.
- Rom\_6:22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
- 2Co\_7:1 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.
- Eph\_4:24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.
- 1Th\_3:13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

- 1Th\_4:7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.
- 1Ti\_2:15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.
- Tit\_2:3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;
- Heb\_12:10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.
- Heb\_12:14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

We are to pursue holiness and live in a holy state as this attitude causes us to reject everything Satan tries to have us accept which is designed to cause us to rebel against God and break our salvation relationship with Him so that we will go to hell and be with Satan forever!

## Holiness and God

God is our example of holiness otherwise it would be a hypocrite for Him to require us to be holy when He is not Holy. He also would not have the right to judge whether or not we had lived a holy life. God does not ask us to do anything we cannot do to pursue holiness. If He did He would not be a God of Love.

He is our example of pursuing holiness. He wholeheartedly pursues all that is necessary to stay in His state of perfection and undefilement in all areas. In this He is our example of how to pursue all that is necessary to keep ourselves holy. Unless we wholeheartedly pursue holiness we will not achieve the level of holiness God requires us to keep. We will allow Satan to influence us in some way because we are not asking what God desires us to do and God is not Lord of that area of our life so that Satan can become its lord of that area by our not defending it against him.

If God is not your Lord of an area then Satan will try to fill this vacuum and be your lord in that area.

Holiness is important as it is necessary to be in that attitude to worship God, to relate to Him correctly and to obey Him correctly and stop Satan controlling an area of your life.

#### Holiness is a gift of God

It is the redemption of us by God that allows us to be in a correct relationship with Him as a result of God's Love shown towards us. His Having cleansed us from all the consequences of sin and declaring us to be in a correct relationship with Him we are now able to appear before Him in a holy, undefiled state. From this basis of having a spiritually clean slate we can pursue holiness.

If God had not redeemed us and placed us in a place of holiness we could not pursue holiness or maintain it. This began at Calvary when we were given a new st art (Tit 3:5, 2 Cor 5:17).

#### **Holiness Glorifies God**

As holiness is a result of God's placing us in a situation that we can be holy then giving us all we need to pursue, develop and maintain it and through this bring Him glory. The moment we claim any glory for what we do to pursue or maintain holiness we are taking it from God and that is a sin.

All that happens to us is started by God and guided by God. We are strengthened and helped to do it by God and He does this for our benefit. Even suffering is for our benefit as it is what God considers that is best for us at that time.

Remember that The Holy Spirit has been given b God to guide us in this so we need to be able to hear His Guidance.

Without correctly dealing with suffering and trials we lose some of the best development we can have for preparing us for heaven.

#### Holiness and sin

The attitudes needed to pursue holiness will protect you from sin as you will focus completely on what God requires you to do for you to obtain or maintain holiness and will ignore the suggestions for Sin which Satan will make for you to do. When you focus on the things of God Satan cannot persuade you to focus on his things. This is why Jesus must be the Lord of all your life and not just part of it.

Satan can only get you to sin if you agree with the suggestion of sin he gives you, so focusing on Jesus and His Will stops you sinning, unless you really desire too sin.

If Jesus is Lord of all you do you will pursue holiness and sin will not be a problem as you will not consider doing the thing that will cause you to sin which means demons cannot talk you into doing sin.

#### God's Glory

People who live holy lives do not promote themselves or give themselves glory because they realise God prepares them for what He asks them to do, prepares what He asks them to do so they can do it then strengthens and guides them to do it so that they know that God has really done it all and uses their love for Him to motivate them to serve Him.

They realise it is only because of God's Grace that they are used by him and it is not for His benefit He uses them but for theirs. God does not need to use us but does it for the pleasure we will have in doing it for Him.

Remember that God is complete in Himself and did not need to make us but did so because of what He could do for us and joy He has in a relationship with us.

It does not matter whether you succeed or fail because you will be judged for the attitude you do it in and not for whether or not you succeeded in the task.

# **Lordship and Holiness**

These go hand in hand.

If Jesus is The Lord of your life you will maintain holiness to maintain the relationship you have with Him and also because you desire to be like Him and He is Holy. You Love for and appreciation of what God has done for you should be the motivator in this pursuing of holiness. In a sense the pursuit of holiness is really maintaining the Lordship relationship we have with Jesus.

The Christian life is the expression of our Love relationship with Jesus and holiness is one key component in maintaining this which is why it is so important.

All the attacks of Satan are aimed at causing us to rebel against God, defile our holiness and lose the salvation relationship we have with God so that we do not go to heaven but will be to be with Satan in hell if we die in this attitude of unholiness.

Rebellion is primarily deliberately not doing what God desires you to do so may not be directly toward Him but may be in non-activity in an area you know He requires you to act in.

#### God's emphasis is on Holiness

We are told in The Bible God desires us to be holy and places great emphasis on this. He does not do it for His sake but for our sake so that we will live as He desires us too now and then after earthly death when we will go to be with Him and enjoy all He has prepared for us in heaven.

If you believed what Jesus said the you would not be looking elsewhere for life's values

You will always have to decide between two different sets of values in life (those of God or Satan) and the attitude of holiness helps you correctly to choose those of Jesus.

#### **Personal Holiness**

Why is holiness important?

It is a command. God said early in His Bible:

"Be ye holy because I am Holy"

So it must be important. God has wholly set Himself aside to do His work for us so we should follow His example of wholly setting ourselves aside to do His work.

We are also told:

"Without holiness no one can approach God"

We will have not pursued holiness so are in disobedience (rebellion) and so cannot enter The Kingdom of God and have temporarily lost our salvation relationship with God which is restored after proper repentance.

We will have committed other sins apart from not pursuing holiness so are in rebellion and cannot enter The Kingdom of God.

So if you desire to stay in The Kingdom of God you need to pursue holiness and if you deliberately do not pursue holiness you will end in the other place, hell!

Remember that sin is deliberate disobedience (rebellion) against what God desires you to do.

Pursuing holiness is an act of obedience to God so not to pursue it is an act of rebellion against God. Remember, God's commands are not suggestions but absolutes that need to be obeyed.

Holiness is a state that results from a desire to set your life apart for the use of God and is a life that is willing to obey God regardless of the cost required to maintain its holiness. It knows the rewards obtained in heaven for obeying holiness are much better than the rewards obtained on earth by not obeying it.

The person who is holy has a correct attitude toward God that allows God to work in that person and develop His Character in them so that they will relate to and serve Him in the way He desires them too serve Him now as well as be prepared by Him to be with Him forever in heaven.

It requires effort to pursue holiness as it goes against the desires of the flesh, which is influence by the world around us that is controlled by Satan, so that Holiness must be pursued and learned against the opposition of Satan and his demons which can only be done if we wholeheartedly desire to be holy, properly understand holiness and know what God requires you to do to live a holy life.

For these attitudes to be in you Jesus must be Lord of all your life!

Holiness is necessary for fellowship with God. Salvation is a relationship with Jesus, our King, and The Father and holiness allows us to maintain this fellowship relationship.

Wholeheartedly pursuing holiness is how you maintain your side of the salvation relationship you have with God as it involves rejecting everything that will compromise the relationship you have with God. The attitude of holiness maintains your relationship with God so that when you die you are able to be with Him in heaven.

If you wholeheartedly pursue holiness, fail but whicheartedly keep trying, you will get to heaven. God knows we are imperfect and will fail and all He asks of us is to wholeheartedly keep trying.

#### Remember:

Without holiness you cannot approach God

You cannot go to heaven.

You go to the other place (hell).

All God requires of you is to wholeheartedly try to be holy. God does not look at your results but at the attitudes you had while doing the acrivity.

#### The progression to Holiness

(Or how it all fits together)

**Salvation** is a result of your faith in whom Jesus is. It is a result of faith in God and who He is and what He has said He has done and is doing and will do..

**Redemption** is a result of believing in what Jesus has done for you at Calvary which removes the defilement of sin so you can be holy and be restored to fellowship with God.

Redemption occurs at salvation.

**Righteousness'** is what you call the correct relationship you have with each member of God and is a result of the redemption obtained for you by Jesus at Calvary and of making Him Lord of all of you and your attitudes.

**Sanctification** is God declaring you are His and setting you apart for His service because you are redeemed and in a righteous relationship with Him.

**Holiness** is a result of redemption and is maintained by the attitudes necessary to maintain your part of the salvation relationship and requires you to focus on God's Will for you, rejecting all that Satan tries to have you us do. Satan can only get you to sin if you accept what he suggests you do.

All the above are a result of God's grace (undeserved mercy and benefits He gives us). All we are required to do is to have sufficient faith to believe in Jesus and what He has done and be wholeheartedly obedient to God so that we maintain our side of the salvation relationship.

Holiness is a state resulting from an attitude of desiring to be holy and that is focused on rejecting all that will separate you from God and His Love for you and is obtained by wholehearted, loving obedience to God in all you do, whether or not you fail in the attempt. God only desires you to wholeheartedly try and is not concerned whether or not you succeed. He always looks at our heart attitude and not the result of what we do.

We will be judged on our attitudes as that gives rise to our purposes, objectives and the way we love and serve others.

Holiness is destroyed by the knowing rejection of a requirement of God, (which is sin), and if it is not stopped will cause you to go to hell.

Satan can only cause you to become unholy because he persuades you to sin which is the result of doing what he suggests you do. Sin always causes defilement and unholiness.

The first point to make is that there are two types of Holiness:

The Holiness of God has which is a result of His Nature Lev 11:44-45

The Holiness we have because we choose to be like God and which conforms us to His Nature.

Secondly, it is also a command Lev 11:45

Thirdly, it is a choice we make 2 Cor 7:1

(ERV) Dear friends, we have these promises from God. So we should make ourselves pure--free from anything that makes our body or our soul unclean. Our respect for God should make us try to be completely holy in the way we live.

Holiness is not the same as Righteousness. Righteousness is the relationship we have with God that allows us to approach Him. We are righteous because of what Jesus has done. We are holy because we choose to be like God which maintains our righteousness.

Holiness has always been a requirement for serving God. It was there in the Temple and Jesus stated it as a requirement to serve Him alone and not another master (Satan or his representatives). We can only focus wholly on one master or we will try to please both and really please only Satan because he is able to guide us to partly focus on his things which means we are not looking at things God desires us to know or do.

Because the presence of God is in us like it was in the temple we need to maintain a state of holiness on a second by second basis.

Jesus said you cannot serve (decide to wholly follow) two masters: Him or yourself (really Satan). When you serve yourself you are actually serving His enemy, Satan.

Holiness is a result of choosing to remove the influences of Satan's kingdom (the current world system) from your life and following the Will of Jesus for you and His Kingdom.

This is how you keep your state of holiness through rejecting all Satan offers you to do or think.

Remember that The Bible tells us that without holiness a person cannot see God as well as what you need to do to be and stay holy which is a very good reason for studying The Bible.

#### What then is Holiness?

*Like all Christian living, it is the result of an attitude.* 

Something is 'holy' when it is set apart for a specific purpose.

A Christian is Holy when they set themselves apart for the purposes of God, choosing to serve God and His purposes and not their own as they realise that God's purposes are best for them and for all those around them.

A person ministering (serving God)does so as part of their life of holiness - the ordering their whole life to serve God and His purposes. Holiness cannot be done in part - it is an all or nothing thing as no man can serve two masters - one master will be supreme and be in charge of your life.

The results of trying to serve two masters is usually compromise, indecision and confusion.

So you cannot halfheartedly serve or minister to another. It will not be done in God's quality of Love if you do this but in you human love as you will minister or serve according to what you think you should and not completely as God tells you too.

As you mature in your Christian life you will understand and practice Holiness in a greater way. God does not expect you to be perfect - only to try, according to your maturity, to live as a follower of Him.

#### We are told to seek Holiness.

What does it mean 'to seek Holiness', (stay holy focused on God and His Will for you in all you do)?

It means to find out what God requires of you as well as how to relate to Him and to hear His voice so you know what He desires of you to do or say.

Remember that The Holy Spirit guides you into all truth including the truths of how to live a holy life (Jn 16:13).

Holiness requires time and effort and according to your degree of holiness will be your effectiveness as a representative of God in your daily living. According to your desire for holiness will be:

The effort you put into rejecting all Satan offers you in his worlds system that surrounds you :

Will be the degree Jesus is your Lord

Will be the degree you study The Bible to understand the requirements of you in it

Will be the effort you make to remove the influences of the world (the kingdom of Satan) on your life so you can hear The Holy Spirit's guidance amongst the turmoil of the world around you.

Will also be the time talking to The Holy Spirit and listening to His voice so you know what He requires of you when The Bible is silent.

Remember that The Holy Spirit guides you into all truth including the truths of how to live a holy life (Jn 16:13).

Holiness requires time and effort and according to your degree of holiness will be your effectiveness as a representative of God in your daily living. According to your desire for holiness will be the effort you put into rejecting all Satan offers you in his worlds system that surrounds you and will be your degree of holiness now and rewards in heaven.

# Where do we find the guidelines for holiness?

They are found in The Bible

This is why it is necessary to study The Bible so we know what God requires for us to be holy.

Devotion is necessary

#### What is devotion?

Webster defines devotion in his 1828 dictionary as:

Devotion

## **DEVOTION**, n.

- 1. The state of being dedicated, consecrated, or solemnly set apart for a particular purpose.
- 2. A solemn attention to the Supreme Being in worship; a yielding of the heart and affections to God, with reverence, faith and piety, in religious duties, particularly in prayer and meditation; devoutness.

# Amongst other things

As you can see devotion is primarily giving your time to someone you value above other people.

# Why is devotion necessary:

Who or what you are devoted too will determine your focus and objectives. Satan has turned the focus of many Christians away from holiness by have them devoted to things which sidetrack them from their devotion to Jesus: Hobbies, movie or sports stars, relationships that over ride their relationship with God, anything that distracts them from pur-

suing holiness. What makes it worse is that they do not realise these things are being used to compromise their holiness.

In other words, Satan will use anything that will distract you from holiness and your relationship with God or from doing what God desires you to do for Him.

#### How do you develop devotion to God?

Seeking to develop the relationship you have with Him

Appreciating what He has done for you

Developing your love for Him through appreciating what He has done for you.

### Why does God desire us to be holy

The purpose of God is stated in Eph 2:7:

Eph 2:7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

In otherwords, to show us His love for us expressed in all the good things He will give us after we die. Holiness is required if you want to be there.

The purpose of Christ is stated in Ph 5:27:

Eph 5:27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

To present His people to himself, holy and undefiled. This will then allow Him to present them to The Father.

You can see the emphasis God places on holiness and why it is so important for our future in heaven. If you are not living a holy life you will miss out on these two purposes.

#### So what is Holiness?

The concept behind holiness is that of being separated for a purpose. In this case the purpose is the Will of God.

Holiness is an attitude of a person that desires God's purposes and desires above their own as they realise that these are better for them than anything they can think of themselves. They also obey out of love for and thanksgiving to God out of appreciation of what He has done for them.

Holiness is a voluntary choice and is not forced on you by God.

We are told to be holy (separate ourselves from the manners and desires of Satan's world system) not because it a legalistic requirement but because we cannot serve God properly while the attitudes of Satan's world system are within us affecting us in some way.

There is a simple principle - whose rules you follow dictates where you end up in eternity. If you follow the way of holiness you end up in heaven. If you follow the way of Satan (ungodliness) you end up in hell.

This is why God says to be holy not because He is Holy - it is for our sake and not His.

Holiness is an integral part of the Christians life. Develop it if you would be with Jesus after you die.

#### Holiness requires faith

It requires faith:

In whom Jesus is

In what He said

That He can do what He said

That it is worth doing what He said to do.

(CEV) But without faith no one can please God. We must believe that God is real and that he rewards everyone who searches for him.

In other words if you wholeheartedly seek a relationship with God He will reward you by giving it to you.

#### Vision

The Bible says "where there is no vision the people perish"

Where you do not have a proper vision of what Holiness is and what it means to your Christian life, you will not maintain or pursue it as you should. So you need to ask God to give you a true vision of what Holiness is as He sees it. Then you will find it easier to maintain and pursue it.

Remember, God does not expect you to be perfect but to wholeheartedly try and do what He requires of you. He looks at your heart attitude and not any result you may achieve.

#### The beauty of holiness Psalm 96:9

The Bible describes holiness as having a beauty so when you are holy God sees you as being beautiful in the spiritual.

When you are holy you are pure, undefiled, and in a correct relationship with God. There is beauty in the spirit when you are pure and undefiled.

If you are not living a holy life you are defiled and in defilement is ugliness in the spiritual realm.

#### Time and holiness

It takes time to be holy so we need to use our time correctly, in otherwords be a good steward of it so that we will pursue the things that maintain and develop holiness. We need to examine our use of time to see if it what God desires us to do so that we demonstrate The Kingdom of God and maintain and/or encourage holiness in ourselves and/or others in their pursuit of holiness. We also bring Glory to God as we pursue holiness.

#### Attitudes and perspectives

Holiness requires you to see attitudes and behaviour from God's perspective and not from those of the world system of Satan.

It requires you to know God's attitude to things and how He values and see things, which is why you need to know what the Bible says and be guided by The Holy Spirit so you can know how God sees the things you are doing or will be going to do.

It will also help you to see how Satan is corrupting things to affect your holiness because these things will not line up with the way God sees things.

Holiness is practicing the attitudes and lifestyle you will have in heaven:

Earth is our preparation for heaven and the attitudes and habits we learn on earth will prepare us for life in heaven

Our rewards in heaven will depend on our holiness on earth as that will determine how we lived on earth Our relationship with God and how to serve Him is learned and developed on earth and holiness is important in doing this

Nothing defiled (unholy) can enter heaven (Rev 21:27)

Holiness, the setting aside of all things to do the purposes of God, must be our sole purpose or we will be defiled (hindered) by the worldly part that we allow into our holiness.

Matt 6:33 expresses its attitude:

Seek to develop your relationship with Jesus

Seek the welfare of His Kingdom (His Will)

Seek to separate you from all Satan offers you which will defile you if accepted which hinder the above.

If these are not motivated by God's type of love this will lead too

Legalism

Ritual

Perfectionism

Pride

Man's rules being more important that The Bible

Our primary purpose is to serve Jesus which the pursuit of holiness guides us in doing correctly

Holiness requires complete obedience to all God requires of you

You must study Bible to know what God requires of you

If you seek the truths of God you will find them (Jn 7:17)

You must be guided by God's interpreter of The Bible, The Holy Spirit (Rom 8:14, Jn 16:13)

It will require effort as Satan will try to stop you

The correct expression of holiness and its attitudes depends on your understanding of holiness and its requirements

You cannot serve Satan or do what he desires you to do and be holy.

# You need to know how he attacks you to have you do what he desires you to do

You must discipline the flesh and its desires (lusts) or Satan will use it to control you.

### Holiness must be pursued

We live in Satan's domain which is against holiness and God so he will resist us as we pursue holiness as we seek to be more like God and less like him.

What does Satan seek to do?

Satan seeks to hide the need for holiness

Satan seeks to defile us with sin

Satan seeks to separate us from God and His Love

Satan seeks to teach us unholy attitudes

The whole world is Satan's smokescreen to hide

God

His Kingdom

God's attributes

All knowing

All powerful

Everywhere sustaining it all

His Character

Especially His Love

His Holiness

The Persons of The Trinity and their roles in our life

The Father

Jesus The Christ

The Holy Spirit

THE type of relationship we have with each

God's redemptive plan for us

The salvation He offers us

His purposes for each one of us

Who Satan is

Hell

Satan's purposes and objectives for all mankind

The works of his demons

The truths of God that expose Satan's smokescreen.

# What does holy living mean?

Holy living is a result of our Love for God which makes us desire to be like Him. Christianity is an expression of our love for God of which holiness is a part.

It means that in everything we do we examine to see if it His is Will as well as meeting God's standards or requirements.

It means we seek to be led by The Holy Spirit in everything we do so that we are always doing the Will of God for us.

It means we need learn how Satan attacks and how to defend our self against him when he tries to convince us to do unholy things.

It also means we study The Bible to know what God considers holy and unholy as well as what He desires us to do and be.

You need to learn how to hear The Holy Spirit so you can be guided by him and be shown when Satan is attacking and how he is attacking you.

You need to know what The Bible says as it contains all God's guidelines for holiness and defeating Satan.

When an emotion, thought, feeling, sensation, desire or action is negative then a demon is behind the attack placing these on you and you need to know how to remove the demon doing these to you.

Holiness is a requirement of the Christian life so that everything you do must be examined and compared to how God sees what you are doing to see if it helps maintain your Holiness or hinders or destroys it in some way. If it does not measure up to the guidelines of God then it probably belongs to Satan's guidelines. In other words, does what you are doing help you do what God is desiring you to do or hinder it in some way.

You can see the importance of making sure Jesus is Lord of all you do and think if you do not want to do anything Satan desires you to do.

In summary, if it does not show God's quality Love of God or causes you to desire things that are not spiritually godly then it is an attack on your holiness. The Holy Spirit is given to us to tell us when our holiness is being attacked by Satan as The Spirit will give us unease or a lack of peace over what is being given to us to take in and accept.

The problem is that most Christians have lost this sensitivity to The Spirit as the churches have more and more removed Him from them so that they so not realise how they are compromising their holiness by what they watch on TV, the Internet or read in magazines or books.

# The Expression of Holiness

Your lifestyle will reflect the degree of holiness or worldliness in you.

If you live a holy life you will also minister in the attitudes Jesus desires you to minister. If you lead a holy life you will do all Jesus asks of you.

The natural expression of holiness is The Fruit of The Spirit and the loving of all mankind in with the same quality of Love with which God Loves us. You may not like what they do but they are still children of The Father. He loves them and expects you to love them like He does.

## Worthy of your calling Ephesians 4:1

We are told to live a life worthy of our call to follow Jesus. We can only do this if our lives are holy, obeying him in all we do because He is the focus of a holy life. Then we will show by our lifestyle we were worthy to be called by The Father to follow Jesus!

#### Motivation

According to the degree of love you have for Jesus and the understanding and appreciation of what He has done you, will be your desire to serve Him, be with Him in heaven and pursue Holiness.

It helps to have a vision of Jesus as God and King of All so that you understand His Holiness and see what you must try and be like to stay in a state of holiness. It also helps to have a vision of what hell is like so you know what happens if you desire to live an unholy life.

After all, hell is God's incentive plan to obey Him and live a holy life.

#### **Stewardship and Holiness**

You are a stewards of all God has given you of which the ability to live a holy life is one of the things He has given you. We are told that a steward must be faithful in caring for what they are steward of and this is especially so in regard to the holy life we are expected to live. Good stewardship maintains this holy life style so we need to know how to be a good steward of this holy life God has given us.

You are a responsible for your Holiness and the attitudes required to maintain it and so are responsible for how you do this and will have to explain to Jesus why you did things the way you did. You will have to give an account of how you handled your responsibility of maintaining your holiness and in a sense this will also show how you handled your Christian life, the life Jesus gave you stewardship of.

One of the questions Jesus asks people is after they die is what they have done with the life He gave them. If you were to die right now what would you say to Him?

If you do a bad work of the caring for your Holiness because of deliberately wrong attitudes towards it (which will be a result of a bad attitude towards God) there is a good chance you will go to hell. However, if you had trouble maintaining Holiness but you wholeheartedly tried to work at it but did not succeed then you will still go to heaven regardless of the results of your efforts.

#### **Possessions**

People who live holy lives only use or keep that which is necessary to serve their God. He may allow you to keep some things purely for personal pleasure of reasons but usually all your possessions and purchases (of which you are only really steward of) should be relevant to the purposes of your King and His Kingdom. To those people living a holy life it does not matter whether other people have better things they have as worth is not based on what they own but on what Jesus thinks of them as well as How He desires them to use these possessions.

They also realise that God owns everything and that they are only stewards of these things to use as directed by God.

They know having things they do not need will affect their Christian life adversely and may also affect their holiness in an adverse way as they take time and effort to look after things Jesus does not want them to have and so are distracted by this from pursuing the things Jesus desires them to do.

Their lives of holy people are not cluttered and their time is not taken up by the maintaining or pursuit of unnecessary things and because their house is uncluttered it will be in order as they do not have to waste time trying to maintain things they should not have which God did not want them have.

He has no place for these things in their life and these things will only hinder His work in and through their life. This maintaining of things God does not desire you to have is one reason many Christians are not effective in their Christian life.

#### Service

We serve the Lord in all we do and Holiness is required for us to do this properly. In a holy state we wholly focus on what Jesus desires for us to do and not what anyone else says we should do. Remember it is not just ministry but running a family, employment how we enjoy ourselves: anything He asks us to do for Him.

This attitude is an important part of Holiness as our primary purpose on earth is to worship and serve Jesus. God requires you to obey Him as all you do will flow from this obedience to Him.

It is only as you concentrate and do solely what Jesus desires the you too will you serve Him and others in the way He desires you too.

#### Success and failure

Holiness is not measured by God by what you do or do not achieve but is measured by your attitude in doing things and how you express the character of God in all you do. The Christian life is based on correct attitudes and not on the results of what we do. You will not be judged on results but how you obeyed and demonstrated the attitudes of Jesus in what you did.

You may have a correct attitude but not be able to express it which is why you are judged on your attitudes and not your results.

Jesus look at our heart attitudes and what we can do and not the results of what we do.

# **Holiness and Spiritual Warfare**

People who are holy know they are at war with Satan, defending the things of God (which includes themselves) against the attacks of Satan.

So they will learn:

How Satan attacks

How to defend and stop his attacks and remove him

How to hinder or destroy his plans

How to heal and restore those attacked by Satan.

If you are not doing these things or not able too you need to find out why and learn how to do them.

### Communion (oneness) with God

To be one in heart and mind with a person requires you to have the same purposes, objectives, and attitudes they have.

True Holiness is necessary for this to occur and to have true communion and oneness with God. Whether it is: prayer, fellowship, worshiping, service or just talking with God, requires wholehearted oneness with His purposes and a desire to relate to him. In otherwords and attitude of holiness.

No King can fully relate or express themselves to a subject that conditionally loves or obeys them. This is why for true oneness with God we must love him completely with all our being.

This is why Jesus said we should not love anyone above God. To place someone before God in anything is idolatry.

This is also why Jesus needs to be Lord of all we are and do.

If you love God correctly then our love will be correctly expressed to everyone else.

# **Communicating with God**

People who live holy lives love talking to God Because He is Their Best Friend and the one who loves them the most.

They walk around always with one ear listening to The Holy Spirit so they can hear what God desires them to do and then do it quickly.

Their delight is to communicate with God and hear his words so they can do His will.

They love to spend time with Him first thing in the morning before the day starts and the last thing at night before they go to sleep.

They look forward to being with him in heaven forever and their whole life is devoted to doing what brings them closer to Jesus.

#### Sin

Sin is deliberately doing what God does not desire you to do. It destroys your holiness until repented of.

Every sin has a wrong attitude to love and stewardship.

The attitudes required for Holiness will prevent you sinning as your focus is on the Lordship of Jesus and what He desires of you and not on what Satan desires you to do which you will reject when he suggests you do it because it goes against what Jesus desires you to.

The moment you do what Satan desires you to do you are committing spiritual adultery as well as idolatry by putting something before Jesus and His Will and because you are focusing on the sin activity, it becomes a form of worship to Satan. You are doing what Satan desires you to do which you do only when you follow someone. When you sin (rebel against Jesus) you are following what Satan desires you to do which is spiritual adultery and worship of him, even if only by doing what he says.

#### Holiness and repentance

A holy person loves the Lord Jesus and hates to hurt or offend Him. So when they sin (offend Jesus through deliberately rejecting his requirements of them) their love for Jesus causes them to stop doing the wrong thing and do the right thing, which of course is called repentance.

Because of their love for Jesus it also causes them emotional pain and sorrow and in a sense they weep over their sin. This hatred of sin and weeping over its occurring in your life because it offends Jesus, whom you love, shows He is an intimate friend and not just a casual acquaintance.

The Christian life is based on love for Jesus so when Jesus is offended they quickly repent (stop doing the wrong thing) and do the right thing.

If you are not willing to quickly repent of doing the wrong thing then examine your love for Jesus and the level of holiness in your life.

#### The Kingdom of God

Holiness is the state a Citizen of The Kingdom of God should live in. If they do not live it there will be times they are not citizens until they repent of the rebellion that has removed them from The Kingdom of God. This is why you must continuously and wholeheartedly pursue Holiness so that you will not lose your citizenship of The Kingdom of God and lose your salvation.

You only lose your salvation if you refuse to repent of a sin you know you are doing. This is because it is rebellion against Jesus and no rebel belongs to the kingdom it is rebelling against.

#### Satan's Smokescreen

We live in a world surrounded by Satan's attitudes and values. This is possible because he now controls the media (television, movies, DVDs, books and comics, newspapers and anything else that publishes to the masses) and most government, scientific and educational authorities in this world.

All have been infiltrated by his Demons and Christians have allowed them to do this and have done little to stop Satan's advance in these areas.

This means every input you have needs to be examined to see whether or not it attacks Holiness. You need The Holy Spirit to show you when something will attack your holy living (holiness) as well as what to do about it.

It may appear too late to change many things but with God all things are possible.

The responsibility for what you do is yours and not a denomination, church, organisation, other Christians or other moral bodies, and you alone will be judged or how you dealt with the things attacking your holiness.

# Conclusion

There is no excuse for not living a holy life.

God tells us what we need to know (Deuteronomy 29:29) or he would not be a God of love asking us do things but not telling us what to do or how to do them.

He will never ask us to do more than we are able to do or know (1 Corinthians 10:13) and there will always be a way to escape the sin.

He gives us The Holy Spirit and people to guide help and encourage us to live a holy life (Jn 16:13)

He has given us a guide book (The Bible) that tells us what we need to know and it is up to us to study it and learn what it says about holiness.

God has given you everything you need so it is your responsibility to use what He has given you in the way He desires you too. You will have no one else but yourself to blame if you do not learn these things because God will give you opportunity to learn from His Bible regardless of how difficult it may be to do so (Jn 7:17).

Remember, holiness is the state, pursuing holiness is the way to obtain the state and stay in it and that it is purely your choice to pursue holiness

#### Each day

Holiness begins from the time you wake up and does not finish when you go to sleep. Your dreams should also be Godly given to Jesus to protect.

# This is what each day you should do

Or something similar.

Greet The Father, Jesus and The Holy Spirit when you wake up and give the day to them for them to be Lord of all of it.

Ask them then what they desire you to do that day if you do not already know.

Thank them for the day and that you are their child

Thank them for all they are going to do for you that day

The last thing before you go to bed you should:

Thank them for all they have done for you that day

Say good night to each of them

Give your sleep and dreams to them

Holiness is your choice and you will have no one else to blame if you do not end up in heaven.