

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND LIVING A HOLY LIFE

Lesson 6 for February 11, 2017



“For I am the Lord your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I am holy.” (Leviticus 11:44). God is holy and He wants His children to be holy too. How can we be so? How can the Holy Spirit help us in achieving holiness?

- God’s holiness.**
- Man’s holiness.**
- Achieving holiness.**
- The rule of holiness.**
- Pursuing holiness.**

GOD'S HOLINESS

"And one cried to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!'" (Isaiah 6:3)

God is Holy. He is pure, perfect, just, good and he totally shuns evil.

God's absolute power and wisdom are governed by His character that only wants good. His Holiness makes that possible.



The authors of the Bible used repetition to call attention to something important. For example, Jesus introduced important statements by using "Verily, verily", "Jerusalem, Jerusalem", "Martha, Martha."

The angels repeated Holy three times, "Holy, holy, holy." That emphasized the holiness inherent to God's character.

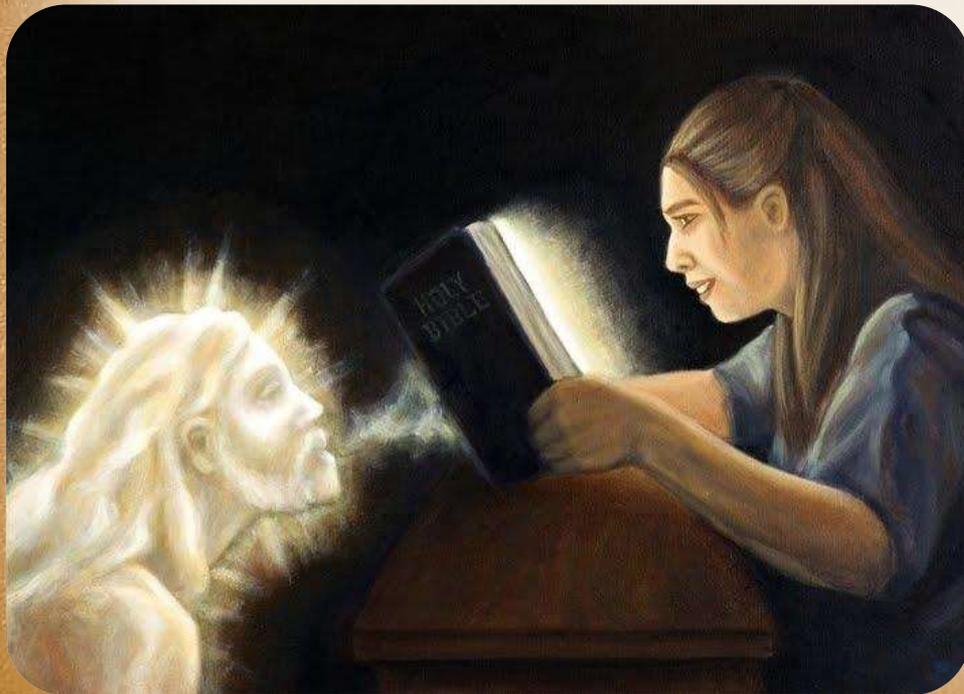


MAN'S HOLINESS

"Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord." (Hebrews 12:14)

If holiness is an essential requirement to see the Lord, we should first study what holiness is.

Holiness is to be more like Jesus every day. We can achieve holiness by the power of the Holy Spirit as we mingle with God in prayer and with His Word. Holiness is the result of contemplating the beauty of Christ's character.



Divine holiness is intrinsic to God's character. Our holiness is a process that goes on for our entire life.

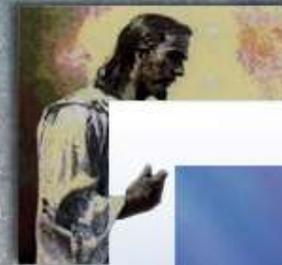
ACHIEVING HOLINESS

**"But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth."
(2 Thessalonians 2:13)**

**We are justified by faith in the blood of Christ. Then, the Holy Spirit begins His sanctifying work in us: "[we] are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."
(2 Corinthians 3:18).**

**Holiness comes into conflict with our sinful nature. How can we walk in the Spirit and stop satisfying our own sinful desires
(Galatians 5:16-17)?**

**We must look unto Jesus and not unto us. He is "the author and finisher of our faith."
(Hebrews 12:2). When we look unto Jesus, He'll give us strength to live a victorious life.**



THE RULE OF HOLINESS

"Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good."
(Romans 7:12)

How can I know if I'm holy? I'm holy if I reflect God's character.

How can I know that I'm reflecting God's Character? I'm doing so if I fulfill the Law, since the Law is the reflection of His character.

Let's study the characteristics of the Law and compare them to God's character.

THE LAW

HOLY
(Romans 7:12)

JUST
(Romans 7:12)

GOOD
(Romans 7:12)

LOVE
(Romans 13:10)

GOD

HOLY
(Isaiah 6:3)

JUST
(1 John 1:9)

GOOD
(Psalm 25:8)

LOVE
(1 John 4:8)

PURSUING HOLINESS

“Lord, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? He who walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart. [...] He who does these things shall never be moved.” (Psalm 15:1-2, 5)

Living a holy life is a result of a character that’s been transformed by the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22).

How does the Holy Spirit transform our character?

He moves us to habits that bring communion with God. He guides us to dedicate time to listen to His voice in prayer and by studying His Word. Those habits create a character in us that leads us to love God and detest sin.

We must remember that it’s the Spirit’s work that transforms us. It requires our effort and will, but it’s His work, not ours: “He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.” (Philippians 1:6).



“The Lord purifies the heart very much as we air a room. We do not close the doors and windows, and throw in some purifying substance; but we open the doors and throw wide the windows, and let heaven’s purifying atmosphere flow in. The Lord says, “He that doeth truth cometh to the light.” The windows of impulse, of feeling, must be opened up toward heaven, and the dust of selfishness and earthliness must be expelled. The grace of God must sweep through the chambers of the mind, the imagination must have heavenly themes for contemplation, and every element of the nature must be purified and vitalized by the Spirit of God.”

E.G.W. (SDA Bible Commentary. Notes on 1 Peter 1:22)