

Personal Holiness: Can't Change The Outside Until We Change The Inside

The God of the Bible is holy. Revelation 4:8, Isaiah 6:3

And this is how He expects us to live. 1 Peter 1:15-16, Ephesians 1:4, Leviticus 11:44, Leviticus 19:2

Aspects of Holiness: Positional Holiness and Progressive Holiness

Positional holiness-when we trust Jesus as our Lord and Savior. We come into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, All our sins are forgiven past present and future.

Acts 26:18, 1 Corinthians 1:30, 1 Corinthians 6:11, Hebrews 10:10

Progressive Holiness – implies a process of becoming holy in practice

God intends for our positional holiness in Christ to stimulate us to practice holiness in our daily lives.

We are called to cleanse our self from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit. 2 Corinthians 7:1

Areas of Holiness

1. Speech

Our words are to be pure, honest, gracious, free of gossip

Proverbs 12:22, Proverbs 15: 1, Ephesians 5:3-4, Ephesians 4:29, Proverbs 10:19

We should speak of speak of reverence of the things of God, Particularly avoiding puns or jokes about the bible or spiritual matters. Matthew 12:36-37, Matthew 10:32-33

2. Disposition

As Christians we should have concern for others. It should dominate our minds.

We are to be kind tender hearted and forgiving. Ephesians 4:32

We need to be careful not to lose our temper, Ephesians 4:26, Proverbs 29:11 Proverbs

Righteous anger is OK, but we need to leave room for God's wrath Romans 12:19

As believers we are not to be crabby, critical, complaining, jealous, vindictive, contentious, covetous or stubborn in disposition. These things must be condemned in our lives.

We are to not to be bitter, Ephesians 4:31

We are to be joyful, Psalms 51:12-13

We are not to complain, Philippians 2:14

We are to be humble, Isaiah 66:2, 1 Peter 5:5

3. Moral Purity

God created sex, but he limited it to the security of marriage. Proverbs 5:18-20

The bible teaches that improper use of sex can destroy a person both mentally and physically.

Proverbs 5:1-11

Both men and women can be tempted sexually.

Men's primary temptation is to look, Proverbs 27:20

Women's main temptation is to allure, Proverbs 23:28

God can allow a person's sinful desires to destroy them. Romans 1:23-27

As Christians our body's are temples of the holy spirit. We can't just do whatever we want with them

1 Corinthians 6:18-20, Romans 12:1-2

Sampson and Joseph in the OT are contrasting examples of defeat and victory in the area of moral purity.

Sampson revealed the secret of his strength to Delilah, he lost his strength, testimony and life.
Judges 14-16

Joseph refused to sleep with Potiphar's wife, lost his job, but ended up as a leader in a Kingdom
Genesis 39:10

David and Bathsheba. 2 Samuel 12:13-15

Moral purity begins with purity in our thinking. Matthew 5:28

Which we must learn to control our thought life. Job 31:1

Our thoughts must be redirected to that which is worthy. Colossians 3:1-5, Philippians 4:8

4. Relationships

Jesus hung out with sinners but didn't compromise his beliefs or convictions. 2 Corinthians 6:14

5. Dress

Careful not to cause a brother to stumble in how you dress. 1 Corinthians 10:32

God hates both confusion of sexes. Deuteronomy 22:5

6. Food and Drink

Although all foods are clean, Mark 7:18-29 1 Timothy 4:3-5

Gluttony (over-eating) should be avoided. Proverbs 23:20-21, Proverbs 28:7, Proverbs 23:2

Self Control 2 Peter 1:5-7, 2 Corinthians 10:5, Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Samuel 2-4

Guidelines for Questionable Area

Would God be glorified in it? 1 Corinthians 10:31

Would I be ashamed of doing it before the Lord? 1 John 2:28

Does it make provision for the flesh? Romans 13:14

Would my example cause another to stumble or sin? Romans 14:13

Do I have doubt about it? Romans 14:23

Would it abuse my body? 1 Corinthians 6:19

Would Jesus do it? 1 Peter 2:21, 1 John 2:5

Principles for Holy Living

1. Cultivate good habits:

Memorize scripture, Psalms 119:9-11

Hang out with believers Hebrews 10:25

2. Develop and live by convictions

Daniel was an example of a man of principle, Daniel 1

Joseph ran from Potiphar's wife Genesis 39:10-12

Seek God's help by calling out to him when under pressure. Proverbs 18:10

3. Control your thought life, Matthew 5:19-20, 2 Corinthians 10:5

Positive obedience in every area brings with it the blessings of God.

Isaiah 1:19, Jeremiah 7:23

The return of Christ is a constant reminder for us to live a holy life. 1 John 2:28

If Jesus came back today would you want to be found in any condition contrary to His Holiness?