

Is Holiness Passe?

Romans 6:15-23; Hebrews 12:14



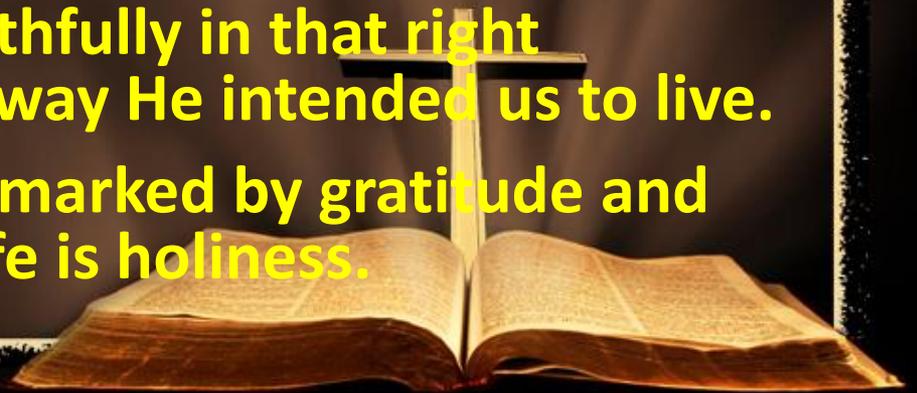
How Do We Now Live

- Since we did not deserve what Jesus did for us, does it really matter how we live?
- When we try to do all the right things to be righteous, we become a slave to the law.
- When one is a slave, one does what one is told and nothing else.
- There are two images at work Romans 6:19:
 - Slavery - Life is controlled by the one who owns you.
 - Faith - To relinquish control in order to express devotion.



The Control of Righteousness

- We are to offer our bodies, our lives, our energies, and our talents as an act of devotion to the control of righteousness.
- Righteousness speaks more to God's saving action in Jesus Christ than to our keeping the Ten Commandments.
- Righteousness cannot come by the Law because we cannot keep the Law perfectly.
- Righteousness is to live faithfully in that right relationship with God the way He intended us to live.
- When we live a life that is marked by gratitude and praise, the result of that life is holiness.



Holiness

- Real holy people do not know they are holy.
- Today, holiness is interpreted as someone who thinks they are better than everyone else.
- We are afraid of the world seeing us for who we really are – a holy people, a nation of priests.
- The testimony of a holy life threatens the unbeliever.
- We are to be holy as God is holy.



Conclusion

- Holiness is being *“separated and set apart for God, consecrated and made over for Him.”*
- Holiness is bringing our lives into agreement or conformity with what we already are as children of God.
- All our experiences, good and bad, are used by God to shape and mold us into the image of His Son.
- Holiness is the goal of our salvation.

