

Sermon Notes:

Series: Unusual Blessings, # 6

Holy and Happy?

2 Corinthians 6:14 – 7:1

It is the will of God that each believer should be filled with the Holy Spirit and be sanctified wholly, being separated from sin and the world and fully dedicated to the will of God, thereby receiving power for holy living and effective service. This is both a crisis and a progressive experience in the life of the believer subsequent to conversion. from the C&MA Statement of Faith

What is holiness, or sanctification? The process by which we become more obedient to God's will, and sin becomes less dominant in our lives. Holy does not mean sinless or perfect; it means to be set apart for a special use, not ordinary.

We pursue holiness:

Offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. Romans 6:19

If you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. Romans 8:13

Walk by the Spirit and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. Galatians 5:16

Put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:24

Be filled with the Spirit. Ephesians 5:18

Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14

Let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God. 2 Cor. 7:1

God helps us towards holiness:

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10

Now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. Romans 6:22

He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May our whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23

A. W. Tozer: "Holy is the way God is. To be holy he does not conform to a standard. He is that standard. He is absolutely holy with an infinite, incomprehensible fullness of purity that is incapable of being other than it is. Because he is holy, his attributes are holy; that is, whatever we think of as belonging to God must be thought of as holy. God is holy with an absolute holiness that knows no degrees, and this he cannot impart to his creatures." Knowledge of the Holy, Ch. 21

Application:

Am I doing the work necessary to pursue holiness? What sinful practices in my life am I praying about, and working on eliminating? What progress do I see from a year ago, that encourages me?

Do I see holiness as a burden or limitation? Or do I consider it a blessing?

Luke 11:11-13

Write a prayer asking for the help of the Holy Spirit: