

Holiness

What does it mean to be holy?

Eph 5:27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

Holiness is the process by which God makes us free from blemishes.

Why is holiness important?

Heb 12:14 Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:

Holiness is not an optional extra; without it is impossible to see the Lord.

1 Pet 1:15-16 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, (16) because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.”

Holiness is part of the nature of God Himself, and He wants His children to reflect His nature.

Eph 5:27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

It is the plan and purpose of God to produce a holy people.

Rom 6:22 But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

Holiness is part of the work of God’s Spirit in our lives.

How does God help us to become holy?

Eph 4:24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

The new creation was created in holiness as an act of grace.

Heb 12:10 For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

He chastens us so that we become partakers of His holiness.

How can we cooperate with God’s work of holiness in our lives?

2 Cor 7:1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

We can “cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit”.

Rom 6:19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.

We can yield ourselves to righteousness instead of sin.