

Are You Holy?

(1 Peter 1:13-15)

- Introduction:
1. God is holy, but we are to be holy as well (Psalm 111:9; 1 Peter 3:15).
 2. However, it seems to be a general problem among mankind that we are more concerned with *getting* right than we are with *living* right.
 3. Holiness seems so out of reach for some.
 - a. We are not to think too highly of ourselves (Romans 12:3), and most don't — instead we go to the other extreme.
 - b. We are much more comfortable with saying that we are sinners saved by the grace of God rather than saying we are holy saints of God.
 4. There is no need to make holiness more difficult than it is — in fact, you can leave here today, “holy” if you want to.
 - a. Holiness means “set apart.”
 - b. You can make that decision right now and being the process of living a holy life.
 5. However, holiness begins in your mind. If you want to act holy, you have to learn to think holy (Proverbs 23:7).
 6. The following are three elements are required if you want to be holy.

I. PREPARATION

- A. (1 Peter 1:13).
- B. “Gird up the loins of your mind” — imagery of preparation.
- C. Everyday we encounter thousands of events and images that attempt to influence the way you think.
- D. (Romans 12:2) Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
- E. If we fill our minds with junk, we'll end up think junk. If we fill our minds with scripture, prayer, and edifying conversation our lives will reflect the difference.

II. SEPARATION

- A. (1 Peter 1:13).
- B. “Sober” means not intoxicated or clear-headed.
- C. In order to be holy, we must separate ourselves from our emotions and our possessions to the extent that they do not have the power to control us.
- D. Sound judgment must take precedent over emotions.

III. CONCENTRATION

- A. (1 Peter 1:13).
- B. “Rest or fix” your hope of the grace of God.
 1. God is kind to us not because we are good, but because He is good.
- C. In what have you placed your hope?

- Conclusion:
1. Holiness is your choice, but it's God's demand?
 2. Prepare your mind, separate your thoughts, and fix your eyes on God's grace.