

# God is Holy



*“You shall be holy, for I am holy.”*

*1 Peter 1:16*

# God is Holy

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The holiness of God describes God's nature:

“You who are of purer eyes  
than to see evil and cannot  
look at wrong.”  
Habakkuk 1,13

For you are not a God who  
delights in wickedness; evil  
may not dwell with You.  
Psalm 5,4



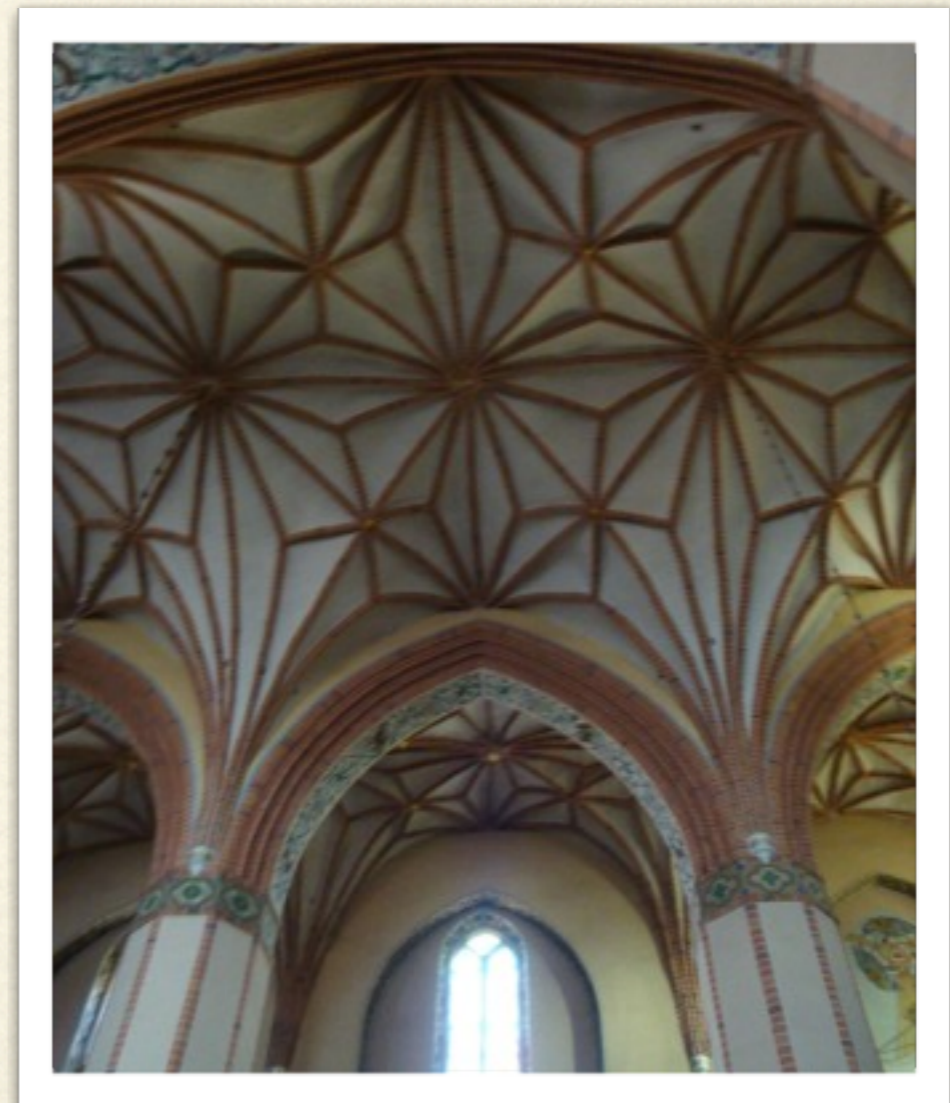
**Now that we are His children, we are to live  
holy lives here upon this earth.**

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**Strive for...holiness without  
which no one will see the  
Lord. Hebrews 12:14**

**Can two walk together, unless  
they are agreed? Amos 3:3**

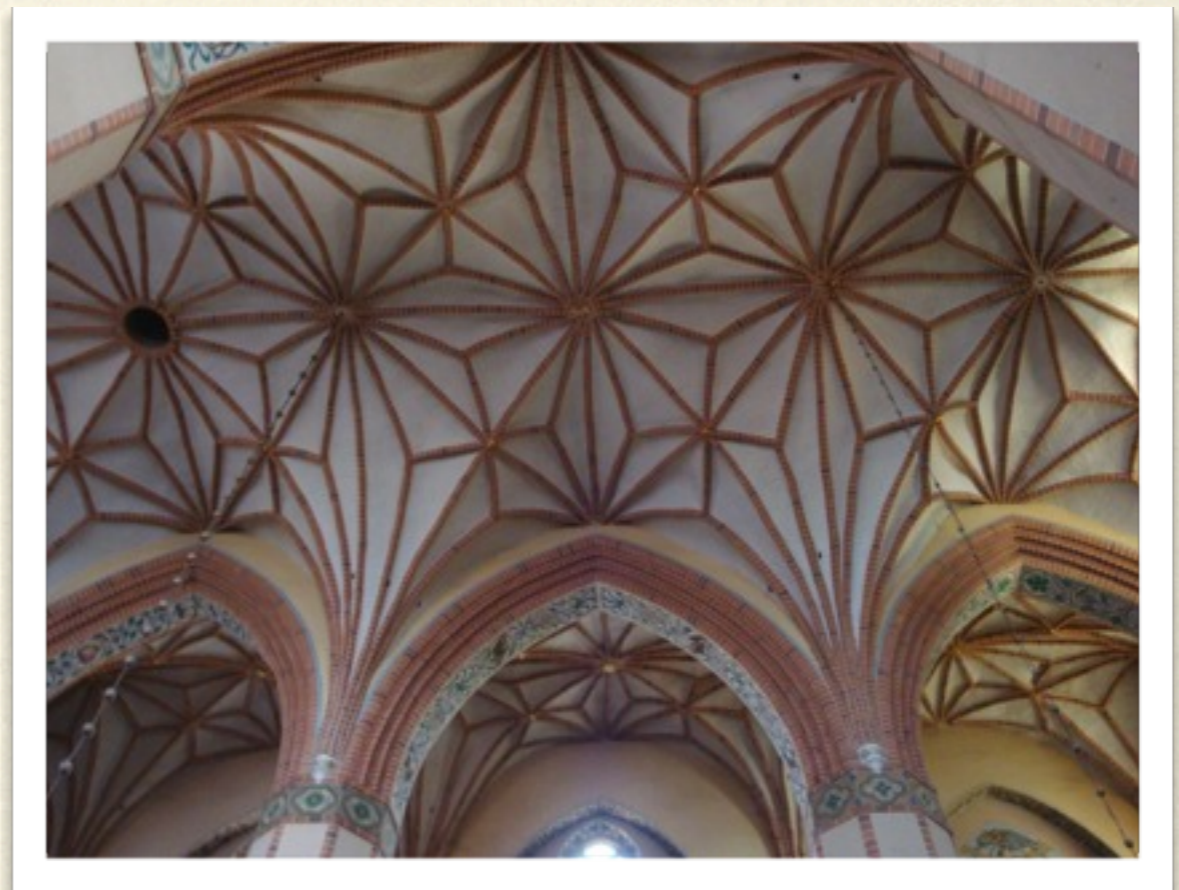
**Let everyone who names the  
name of the Lord depart  
from iniquity. 2 Timothy 2:19**



# Holiness in Context

Holiness naturally has a practical application for our lives. We can look at some of the Scriptures in context to see how to live this out practically. Let us consider these four areas:

- ❖ Our passions
- ❖ Sexual Relationships
- ❖ Disappointments and offenses
- ❖ Partners/Friendships



# Holiness in Context: Passions

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The context for “You shall be holy, for I am holy,” is 1 Peter 1, 14-16:

As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

Here, Peter tells us not to pattern our lives after the way we lived before we were saved. He specifically mentions “passions” which is the word “lust” in the original Greek.

Lust is a strong desire. It does not necessarily mean that it is wrong. A person, for instance, could have a strong desire for sex. It is how this desire is reacted to determines whether it is wrong or not.

# When strong desires are wrong

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Lusts or strong desires are wrong when they:

- ❖ Are fulfilled in an unlawful way (e.g., sex outside of marriage; pornography)
- ❖ Control us (e.g., alcohol)
- ❖ Become the priority and motivation of our lives (e.g., money)

**1 John 2,15-17: Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.**

Again these things in themselves are not wrong. They become wrong when used in a wrong manner.

# Holiness in Context: Sexual Relationships

Scripture is clear that a person must be pure sexually in order to be holy in God's eyes.

1 Thessalonians 4, 3-4 & 7-8 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

This means that sex is meant to be only between a man and a woman in the context of marriage.

Hebrews 13,4: Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.



# Holiness in Context: Disappointments

Holiness is also mentioned in the context of disappointments  
(bitterness) Hebrews 12, 14 & 15:

**Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled. (KJV)**

Bitterness tries to come in when someone hurts us or we are greatly disappointed by something. The antidote for this is “grace,” for which the Scripture says we should search diligently. God’s grace gives us the ability to forgive - and to heal us from disappointments.

Bitterness is especially perilous for two reasons: It has very negative fruit, such as wrath, anger and malicious talk. Secondly, it can have a very negative impact on innocent people.

A person who is bitter from things that have happened to them cannot achieve the holiness that God requires for our lives.





# Holiness and Partners

# Holiness in Context: Partners

God also warns us about having close relationships with the unsaved. Consider the following Scriptures:

<b>2 Corinthians 6,14- 7,1</b>	<b>Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers</b>	<b>Light and darkness cannot mix; we have two different orientations</b>
<b>Ephesians 5,6-7</b>	<b>Do not join in with the sinful activities of others</b>	<b>God will judge these works</b>
<b>Proverbs 22,24-25</b>	<b>Do not become friends with an angry person</b>	<b>Unless you learn his ways</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 15,33</b>	<b>Beware of bad company</b>	<b>It ruins character and morals</b>
<b>1 Kings 11,2</b>	<b>Do not marry unbelievers</b>	<b>They will turn your heart away from God</b>
<b>Psalms 1</b>	<b>Do not walk in the counsel of the ungodly or join in with scorners</b>	<b>The way of the wicked will perish</b>

Be careful whom you chose to become closely associated with! Partners who are holy will help preserve your life of purity before God!

# A Life of Cleansing

**It is important in our walk with God to identify and confess our sins and to correct areas that are not pleasing to Him.**

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*“Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.”*  
2 Corinthians 7,1



# Cleansing ourselves daily



We all know it is important to have good daily hygiene. Even if you have not been out working in the yard, a person still needs to cleanse themselves.

Similarly, in going about our daily lives, it is easy to pick up something wrong. Maybe we said something we shouldn't have said, or have been exposed to something that was not pure.

It is important to confess these things to God. When we do, God not only forgives us, but He also cleanses us from their effect.

If we confess your sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins and to cleanse us from all our unrighteousness. 1 John 1,9

# How sins become rooted

What happens when one neglects his spiritual life? When he does not correct himself when he sins? When he gives into his old way of life and does not readily change? Consider the following Scriptures:



- ❖ Galatians 6,6: Whatever a man sows, that will he reap. He who sows to his flesh will reap corruption.
- ❖ James 1,15: Lust gives birth to sin, and sin when fully grown, death.
- ❖ Romans 6,16: You become a slave of sin when you obey it.

When we do not turn from sin, but rather accept it and engage in it, the sin takes over and rules in our lives.

# Judging Ourselves

# Judging Ourselves

If a sin has become a habit, we must take steps to free ourselves from this sin and walk again in the holiness of God. To do this, we humble ourselves before God, confessing our sins to Him and repenting of them. We then must sow spiritual things into our lives so we will start reaping from the Spirit instead of our flesh.

<b>1 Corinthians 11,31-32</b>	<b>If we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord that we would not be condemned with the world.</b>
<b>James 4,7-8</b>	<b>Cleanse your hands, you sinners and purify your hearts, you double minded. Submit yourself to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.</b>
<b>Galatians 6,7</b>	<b>He who sows to the Sprit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.</b>





# In the Fear of God

*“Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.”*

2 Corinthians 7,1

# Perfecting Holiness in the *Fear of God*

One of the biggest obstacles to living a holy life before God is that we either do not want to offend other people, or we are worried about what they think.

This means that Christians sometimes act differently around unsaved friends or family members as they do around Christian friends.

Notice that the Scripture in 2 Corinthians 7,1 says that we perfect holiness “in the fear of the Lord.” That means, we do not take other people into account before we decide how we act or what we do. We consider what God thinks about it before we do it.

The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe. Proverbs 29,25

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