

## The Holiness of God

### Part 3

#### “be ye holy in all manner of behavior” I Peter 1:15-16

The Scriptures identify some specific sins to avoid

– 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Gal. 5:16-21

The Bible is written for all people, cultures, all times. No lists!  
Not our intent to make a list of Do’s and Don’t for believers.

**God gives us timeless universal principles for behavior that is borderline questionable.**

1. We don’t just judge the legality of a behavior; but rather – will this behavior be spiritual profitable; or will it become a controlling dominant activity? I Cor. 6:12
2. The activity may be permissible or O.K.; but is it edifying; The word is a “*house builder*” – will it build me up? I Cor. 10:23
3. Avoid all manner of behavior that may have an appearance of what is evil. 1 Thes. 5:22
4. The activity may be fully within my defensible rights; but would it be more honoring to God to not demand my rights and suffering wrongfully. I Cor.6:7; I Pet. 2:20
5. Women should be dressed in modest apparel. I Tim. 2:9; Titus 2:3-5; 1 Peter 3:1-5

“Christian women do not have a right to dress provocatively.”  
It is dishonoring and disrespectful to themselves.

“If your body is not for sale, there is no need to advertise it as if it is.”

6. Lustful thoughts toward the opposite sex; pornography can occur in many forms, immodest images by sight; reading about immoral actions, listening to sexual provocative speech.

**Consider the sources:** digital devices, TV, advertisement

**Consider more subtle behaviors and attitude that are unholy.**

1. Actions that grieve the Holy Spirit – Eph. 4:29-32
2. Actions that quench the Holy Spirit - 1 Thes. 5:19
3. Actions that God says He hates – Prov. 6:16-19
4. Actions that are contrary to His stated will – I Thes 5:18 “an unthankful spirit”
5. Actions that are contrary to His clear direction. “trusting the Lord for everything” Prov. 3:5-6
6. Action that rejects the clear truths of Scripture. Embracing the three ordinance of the Church – I Cor. 11 Embracing the roles of authority in the home & Church – Eph. 5
7. Actions and attitudes that are contrary to the Fruit of the Spirit – Gal 5:22-26

#### 10 Reasons Why a Believer Should Desire to be Holy

1. It is the fruit of salvation, prompted by the Holy Spirit. Rom. 5:5
2. Sin brings dishonor to the Lord and His people. 2 Sam. 11:27; 12:13-14
3. Calvary brings to mind what our sins did to Christ for us. 1 Peter 2:21-24
4. Sin breaks God’s heart and our fellowship with Him. John 14:15, 21
5. Sin causes other people, believers and unbelievers, to stumble. Mal. 2:8; Matt. 18:6-7

**Mark Twain** turned away from Christianity because he heard Christians condoning slavery, using foul language, and engaging in shady deals.

### **Stumbling can even change the course of World History:**

Mahummad, in the 8<sup>th</sup> century AD, received the concept of one true God, from Jewish and Christian friends, but was turned off by watching their lives. A little more love and holiness might have changed the course of history for what is now known as the Muslim world.

6. Holy living is God's formula for the best life we can live here on earth. John 10:10; 15:9-11
7. Holiness reminds us of who is living within us as His Holy Temple. I Cor. 6:19-20
8. The fear of God keeps us from sin that is an offence to Him. 2 Cor. 7:1
9. Holy living is the best preparation for eternity. I Tim. 4:8
10. Holiness gives us confidence in our prayer life.  
I John 3:21-22; Psm. 66:18

### **Heb. 12:14**

Every Christian should be jolted when he reads that without holiness, no one will ever see the Lord.

This certainly applies to our Positional Sanctification; but it also embraces the practical holiness of our daily lives here below; because holiness is the evidence of a life changed by a genuine conversion to Christ and in fellowship with God

### **The words "Holy" and "in Christ" = two most wonderful words in the Bible**

#### **The Word "holy"**

- Most unfathomable meaning
- Uttered by the veiled faces of seraphs before God's throne
- It is the centerpiece of all of God's perfections
- It is the source of all of God's glory
- It reveals from an eternity past what God's thoughts were for man, and His design for man in a future eternity.

#### **The Words "in Christ"**

- Here is revealed all the wisdom and love of God for man
- Here is a summary of what redemption accomplished
- Here is where the child of God can permanently dwell
- Here is the highest lesson of the believer life on earth
- Here is God's answer to all our needs and prayers
- Here is the guarantee and foretaste of eternal glory
- Here is the bridge that spans the gap between God and man
- Here is the answer to our question: How do we become holy?

Consider the combination of these two powerful terms: Phil. 1:1  
(Paul uses these terms in the beginning of each prison epistle)

#### **In Summary:**

Three powerful truths that open the door to God's Holiness:

1. A Revelation "I am Holy" = accept the meaning of it
2. A Command "Be ye holy" = accept the desire for it
3. A Gift "holy one in Christ" = accept the fullness of it