

WHAT IS GODLY LIVING? (mine)

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

INTRODUCTION:

A. God commands us to be Holy.

B. The word Holy is used differently in the bible than we use it today.

C. HAGIOS- signifies a separation to God, holiness is the state, the conduct befitting those so separated to God. It manifests itself in personal conduct.

1. If there is no difference between your way of life and your heathen neighbor you are not living Holy.

2. You can tell a lot about a person by their actions.

D. That's not to say we have a "holier than thou" attitude.

E. Being Holy is living Godly! We want to try and answer the question "WHAT IS GODLY LIVING?"

BODY.

I. A STANDARD IS NEEDED. (as it is with all things).

A. WRONG STANDARDS OF GODLY LIVING.

1. Looking to those around us.

a. Israel warned against this:

(1). Lev. 11:44. **For I am the Lord your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I am holy. Neither shall you defile yourselves with any creeping thing that creeps on the earth.**

(2). Lev. 18:3. According to the doings of the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, you shall not do; and according to the doings of the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you, you shall not do; nor shall you walk in their ordinances.

- b. We are not to compare ourselves with ourselves- 2 Cor. 10:12 For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise..
 - c. Nearly everyone lives a little better than someone.
 - d. Most people w/n follow the right way- Matt. 7:13-14 Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.
2. Some set as a standard of Godly living the standard taught them by their parents.
- a. We are to obey parents. Matt. 15:4 For God commanded, saying, `Honor your father and your mother'; and, `He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.'
 - b. But parents are not perfect- Rom. 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,.
 - c. Sometimes we must leave our parents for God- Matt 10:37 (NKJV) "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.
3. Some use learned men, the preacher, Pastor, Rabi, etc. These are also the wrong source.
- a. 1 Cor. 2:11-12 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one

knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

- b. Jer. 10:23 " O Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps. "
- c. An example of this was seen on Nov. 18, 1978 in Jonestown Guyana, when 911 people took their own lives because their leader James Jones of the Peoples Temple told them to do so.
- d. Some have always been willing to follow men Acts 5:36-38. For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody. A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were scattered and came to nothing. "After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were dispersed. "And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing.

B. GOD IS THE PROPER STANDARD.

- 1. 1 Pet. 1:15-16 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."
- 2. 2 Cor. 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord..

II. HOW CAN WE KNOW WHAT GOD IS LIKE?

A. He sent Jesus to show us.

- 1. Jn. 14:8-9 Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long,

and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'.

2. Jn. 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 1:14. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

3. Phil. 2:5-8. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross

B. He is our example of what Holy or Godly living is all about.

1. Jn. 13:15 For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.

2. 1 Pet. 2:21-23 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;

C. When Jesus left He left His word.

1. Rom. 12:3 a measure of faith. For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

2. Rom. 10:17 17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

3. We will be held accountable to his word- Jn. 12:48 "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day

III. TWO CONFLICTING WAYS OF LIFE ARE GIVEN IN GOD'S WORD.
ONE EXAMPLE IS GIVEN IN GAL. 5:16-26.

A. WRONG KIND of life- Gal. 5:19-21. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God These break down into five groups.

1. Sexual sins-

- a. Adultery and fornication.
- b. Uncleanness-literally means impurity, reference to thoughts and actions that lead to immorality.
- c. Lasciviousness-absence of restraint, indecency which includes dress, speak and actions.

2. Idolatry and sorcery-

- a. Idolatry- worship of images or covetous service of materials.
- b. Sorcery-witchcraft, superstition to new age movement.

3. Sins of attitudes-

- a. Hatred-opposite of love.
- b. contentions-strife resulting from hate.
- c. jealousy.
- d. outbursts of wrath-violent anger.

4. Sin of false teaching and divisions.

- a. Selfish ambition-taking sides and divisions.
- b. Dissensions-divisions into selfish groups.
- c. Heresies-teaching of one's opinion that gives rise to division.

5. Sins of drunkenness and revelry.

- a. drunkenness.
- b. revelry is wild drinking parties.

B. GAL. 5:22-23 is the opposite of this. But the fruit of the Spirit is love joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

- 1. These are the attributes of God.
- 2. This is the way Jesus lived when He was among us.
- 3. This is holy living, that which gives us happiness.

CONCLUSION:

- A. Some claim to be living Godly or HOLY and yet condone sin.
- B. They have no idea what godly living is all about.
- C. In an age and time when society is seeking new life-styles and a new morality the church of Christ must uphold his standard of Holy Living.