

Be Holy Because I Am Holy

Understanding The Bible

What Does This Mean?

And
Is It Possible?

EDITION ONE

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Title Page

Be Holy Because I Am Holy

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To God Be The Glory

Dedication

To our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ—

Our Light in the darkness, our Rock of salvation, and the Author of our faith. May the words of this message bring glory to Your name and draw hearts ever closer to You.

Romans 11:36

"For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen."

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Chapter 1 Introduction

Just what does it mean when the Bible tells us we must be holy because God is holy! We see this in the following passages, The first two are from the old testament, and the third is from the new testament.

Lev 11:44 I am the LORD your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy. Do not make yourselves unclean by any creature that moves along the ground.

Lev 11:45 I am the LORD, who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy.

1Pe 1:16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

It has always been God's intention that His people should be holy. This is not a new testament idea, but it was always God's plan.

We can see from these scriptures that being holy is not just a nice thought, but it is something that our God expects from us. But you may ask, "How can we be holy?" Surely that something only God can be, isn't it?" That is a very good

question and one I will try to answer in this booklet.

I think the first thing to understand, is that God will not ask us to be something that it is impossible for us to be.

Mar 10:27 Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."

Luk 18:27 Jesus replied, "What is impossible with man is possible with God."

We can see from these scriptures there is nothing impossible for God to accomplish. What may seem like a “mountain too far” for us is not a problem to God. Just consider this. Since God created everything we can see. The enormity of the universe to the microscopical things. Why would it not be possible for Him to provide a way for us to be “Holy”? Remember, this is not of our power and doing. It is all from God.

So if God expects us to be holy, then there must be a way for us to be holy.

Chapter 2 - Definition of The Word Holy

So, just what is the definition of the word holy. A Greek-American bible scholar and author named Spiros Zodhiates (March 13, 1922–October 10, 2009). His description of the Greek word hagios, and translated into English as holy is this.

Hagios = set apart ones, separated ones, sanctified ones, holy ones) is literally a holy one and properly means different, set apart, distinct, holy. It describes one who is set apart for or by God and can be brought near or into God's holy presence. "Its fundamental idea is separation, consecration, devotion to the service of Deity, sharing in God's purity and abstaining from earth's defilement."

So depending on the context, hagios, or holy, refers to whoever or whatever is set apart (sanctified) for a special purpose. To be holy is to be set aside, by God, for a special purpose. We are to be different and distinct from those who are not holy.

Therefore, we can say a true Christian has been called out,

sanctified, separated and made holy for God's purpose.

I believe Christians must be seen to be living by their convictions, they must set an example to others by the way they live and interact with the world. Being holy is not all about how we dress, act or the way we speak. It is not in isolating ourselves from the rest of the world. To be holy is all about our inward nature.

We need the same nature as God. God is a God of love. He wants us to display the same attributes He has. Consider the following passages of scripture in the book of Galatians. The fruit of the Spirit is the nature of God. This is how we are to live.

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal 5:23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Gal 5:24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Gal 5:25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Gal 5:26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

This is how those who have been sanctified should live. It is never said to be easy but this is what we must strive for. If we stumble on the way we can be certain Jesus will help us up

again.

To love our fellow man regardless of his nationality, religion or colour is the greatest thing we can do. Read the following scriptures and understand the importance of love.

Rom 13:10 Love does no harm to a neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfilment of the law.

1Co 13:4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

1Jn 3:16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

Jesus Christ laid down His own life for all mankind. In 1Jn 3:16 we see that we must also be prepared to do the same thing for others.

Chapter 3 - The Term Holy

Being a Christian is not just believing that God exists, going to church once a week, singing a hymn or two and listening to a message from the pulpit. Christianity is far more than a system of beliefs, laws and a list of dos and do nots. Rather, it means that we need to be united with Jesus through the indwelling and guidance of the Holy Spirit. True holiness is “God living in us”.

Gal 2:19 For I, through the law, died to the law, that I might live to God.

Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I that live, but Christ lives in me. That life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself up for me.

He dwells in us, and we dwell in Him. Therefore, we can say that in Christ, we are already “Holy”. Set apart or dedicated to God. We belong to God.

Chapter 4 - Incredible Implications

When we consider these thoughts, we can see that God wants more than just mere morality from us.

God's call on us to be holy is a radical, all-encompassing claim on our lives, loves, loyalties and actions. Jesus Christ requires nothing less than death to our fallen, egocentric selves in order that we might live in and for him.

Mar 8:34 He called the multitude to himself with his disciples, and said to them, "Whoever wants to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Mar 8:35 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it; and whoever will lose his life for my sake and the sake of the Good News will save it.

Mar 8:36 For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world, and forfeit his life?

Mar 8:37 For what will a man give in exchange for his life?

Mar 8:38 For whoever will be ashamed of me and of my

words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man also will be ashamed of him, when he comes in his Father's glory, with the holy angels."

We know that when our Lord was here the first time He lived a perfect and sinless life and this is how we should try to live, even though we realize it is impossible for us to be that pure and good.

But just how important is it for us to "be holy"? The answer is found in Hebrews 12:14.

Heb 12:14 Follow after peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no man will see the Lord,

I think we can see from that verse just how important it is for us to be "sanctified" or "holy". Without being sanctified, or holy, we will never see the Lord. Jesus has already provided the way for us to "be holy"

Heb 10:14 For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

And our reward is being made perfect forever and being made holy.

Heb 2:11 For both he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one, for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brothers,

This is an amazing passage of scripture. Jesus is not ashamed to call us brothers.

That is a family I want to belong to.

Chapter 5 - Conclusion

It may sound like an impossible task to be holy, but as usual our amazing God has done it for us

If we are filled with the holy Spirit, if the holy spirit dwells within us, then how can we be anything else but holy?? And we know that the Holy Spirit dwells within Christians and we can see this from the following verses,

Rom 8:6 For the mind of the flesh is death, but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace;

Rom 8:7 because the mind of the flesh is hostile towards God; for it is not subject to God's law, neither indeed can it be.

Rom 8:8 Those who are in the flesh can't please God.

Rom 8:9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if it is so that the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if any man doesn't have the Spirit of Christ, he is not his.

We are assured in other passages that we have the gift of the Holy Spirit and thanks to Him we can be holy. Not "holier

than thou” but belonging to Jesus.

We all need to change our lives, not to earn salvation, because Jesus has already paid the full price for our salvation. Thanks to Him, we can say that we are holy if we live for Jesus and He lives in us.

It is our faith in Jesus Christ that makes us holy, and this faith is a gift from God.

SET YOURSELVES APART FOR ME. BE HOLY, BECAUSE I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD

About The Author

Leslie Rendell is a devoted believer in God, whose faith is the foundation of his life and work. He holds the firm conviction that the Bible is the ultimate source of truth, surpassing all human wisdom, opinions, and teachings. For Leslie, no doctrine or interpretation from any man—regardless of status or influence—can ever take precedence over the inspired Word of God.

His writings are the product of his own diligent research and personal study, undertaken not to conform to popular thought, but to deepen his own understanding of biblical truths. Leslie does not rely on external sources or human interpretations; instead, he turns solely to the Scriptures for guidance, allowing God's Word to speak for itself. Every topic he explores is examined through the lens of the Bible, ensuring that his work remains free from the influence of human tradition or denominational bias.

Leslie's desire is not to impose his own views but to encourage others to seek the truth within the pages of the Bible. His hope is that his writings will inspire readers to

engage in their own scriptural study, leading them to a deeper, more personal relationship with God.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Bibliography

All scriptures quoted in this book are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

The King James Version (KJV) occupies a unique and revered position in the history of Christian scripture, often regarded by its advocates as the most accurate and faithful English translation available. Commissioned by King James I of England and first published in 1611, the KJV was the result of the collaborative effort of 47 distinguished biblical scholars, all highly proficient in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. These scholars approached their task with deep reverence, striving to preserve the integrity of God's Word while rendering it in a majestic and poetic style that has profoundly shaped both Christianity and English literature.

One of the reasons many consider the KJV superior is its reliance on the Textus Receptus manuscripts for the New Testament, which were widely regarded as reliable by scholars of that era. Advocates of the KJV often argue that modern translations deviate from these ancient texts and incorporate contemporary interpretations that risk diminishing the Bible's original meaning. Additionally, the language of the KJV, though more complex than that of modern translations, is

praised for its precision, reverence, and reflection of the sacred nature of Scripture.

The historical impact of the KJV on English-speaking Christian communities further underscores its importance as a foundational text. For those who value both doctrinal fidelity and linguistic beauty, the King James Bible continues to be a cherished and authoritative version of Scripture.