

# *“Rooted and Built Up” Discipleship Program*

## **Lesson Nine- What is Holiness?**

### **Scripture- II Corinthians 3:1-18**

**Memory verse- Romans 12:1**, *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”*

INTRODUCTION- After God had delivered Israel from Pharaoh’s grip in Egypt and before God would permit them to enter the Promised Land, He declared that Israel would be *“an holy people unto the Lord”* (Deuteronomy 7:6, 14:2). The reason for God’s calling Israel to “holiness” was because of His Own holiness (Leviticus 11:44-45, 19:2). As God desired to use Israel to be His “witness” to the earth, so Christ has a desire to enlist those whom He has saved to be a living example of His holiness in this wicked world (I Peter 2:9; I Thessalonians 3:12-13). Our culture has much to say about “being a good person”, but



they cannot submit one example of any human being who was, in every aspect of life, a good person. God in the Person of His Son, Jesus, provides mankind the perfect, sinless Model of holiness. Many religions spend a great deal of time speaking of holiness, but better it is to live holy than to talk about it. A famous preacher illustrated this saying, *“Lighthouses do not ring bells and fire cannons to call attention to their shining-they just shine”* (Dwight L. Moody). “To live as God” is the true meaning of holiness. Godliness is simply an imitation of God, and by looking upon Him we see the Pattern for holiness. *“But we all”,* said the Apostle Paul, *“with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image...”* In this lesson, let us look closely at the biblical concept of living separated, holy lives as believers in Christ by answering the question–What is Holiness? **HOLINESS-** “sacred; set-apart; separated unto the service of God.”

## **I. THE “ ” OF HOLINESS**

**A. The Bible divides a believer into two “\_\_\_\_\_”.**  
(John 3:6; II Peter 1:4). Notice the names of these two natures:

- 1. The name of the nature in which we are all born physically is called “the Old nature” (Romans 8:5; II Corinthians 4:16; Ephesians 4:22).**

2. The name of the nature to which we are born-again spiritually is called “the New nature” (Romans 8:15; II Corinthians 4:16; Colossians 3:10).

B. The Bible teaches that both natures provide a distinct “\_\_\_\_\_”.  
(I Corinthians 15:39-50; Ephesians 2:2-3; Romans 13:14; Galatians 5:17; Psalm 17:15; Romans 6:6-12; Galatians 5:16; Ephesians 4:22-24; II Corinthians 5:17; John 1:4-5, 3:19-21; II Corinthians 4:11; Galatians 2:20)

## II. THE “\_\_\_\_\_” OF HOLINESS

A. Holiness begins with a desire to be \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Leviticus 19:2; I Peter 1:15; I Timothy 2:2; II Peter 3:11)

B. Holiness develops by overcoming our known \_\_\_\_\_.  
(John 16:7-13; Psalm 51:3; I John 1:7-9). Notice how we can learn of our present sins and keep ourselves from future sins:

1. Be filled with the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.  
(Psalm 119:9-11)

2. Be filled with the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.  
(Ephesians 5:18; Romans 8:8-14)

C. Holiness increases by the renewing of our \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Philippians 4:7-8; II Corinthians 10:5; Romans 12:2; James 1:14; II Corinthians 2:11; I Peter 5:8; I Corinthians 10:12-13)

D. Holiness is only possible through the power of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
(John 15:5; Philippians 4:13)

### III. CONCLUSION

Holiness or “biblical separation”, as explained by some, has many various aspects such as: substance abuse, personal appearance, human sexuality, and certain music/media abstinence. Certainly, all of the aforementioned subjects are relative to personal holiness, but the focus is based upon what “should not be done”. Do you suppose it is time we took our eyes off of what we should not do and focus more on “Who we should be more like?” After all, God has predetermined that the life of every believer ought to “*be conformed to the image of His Son*” (Romans 8:29).

**Student tip- A “disciple of Christ” is as a sword in a shop window–Men look upon the blade in amazement, but never consider the process by which it was completed.**