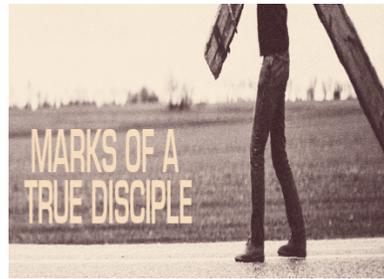


The Six Marks of a Disciple of Jesus”

Part 2: “Pursuing Holiness”

Matthew 5:48; II Corinthians 7:1; Ephesians 4:20-24, 5:25-27; I Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 10:14, 12:14; I Peter 1:13-16; II Peter 1:3-4



Introduction: Since God sees you (as a believer) as holy, “*in Christ*,” the Holy Spirit is now at work in you to PRODUCE holiness.

I Thessalonians 4:1-8:

To be “*sanctified*” is “*to be set apart for a sacred or holy purpose:*” to live in this world as a disciple of Jesus, shining HIS light!!

II Corinthians 7:1:

Holiness is the reality IN which believers live “in Christ” and TOWARD which we strive by the power of His Spirit living within us.

I. The present state of the believer regarding holiness ...

Isaiah 1:18:

Paul often addressed his readers as “saints” ... the Greek word, “*agios*,” means “holy ones.”

Through faith in Jesus Christ, believers have been DECLARED righteous, HOLY in God’s sight through our union with Christ.

II Corinthians 5:21:

Hebrews 10:14: “*For by a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.*”

The “*Solas*” of the Reformation: We know through the Word alone, that we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, for the glory of God alone!!

Hebrews 10:15-18: “*Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin*” (vs. 18).

II. The present LIFE of the believer regarding holiness ...

I Peter 1:13-16:

GOD says the KEY to pursuing holiness is in knowing who you are in Christ, remembering whose you are, and loving GOD more than you love YOURSELF!!

II Peter 1:3-9: “*For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins*” (vs. 9).

LOVE for God and the desire to please Him is a much better motivation than guilt and shame.

I Thessalonians 4:1,7-8:

The New Testament letters are written to God’s children to call us to love Him and to be holy because HE is holy ... to be like JESUS!!

Ephesians 4:17-24, 5:25-27: “*... be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness” (4:23-24).*

The task of the Church is not to dress up a corpse and then pretend it is alive! FIRST, people need to come to Christ!!

Following Jesus, being a disciple of Jesus Christ, is your calling if you truly believe in Him!

III. The present hope of the believer regarding holiness ...

Romans 7:18-19:

As long as you live in this world the flesh will war against the Spirit because they are in conflict with each other.

True believers have a future hope based in God’s promises!

I John 3:1-3:

I WILL be like my Savior Jesus Christ! I will be HOLY!!

Philippians 1:6, 9-11: