

What Does It Mean to Be Holy?

1 Peter 1:13-16

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- ^{ESV} **1 Peter 1:13** Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
- ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance,

1 Peter 1:13-16

- ¹⁵ but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,
- ¹⁶ since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

Outline

- The Command to be holy
- The Reasons why we must be holy.
- The Constraints of holiness on our daily lives.

The Command to be holy

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- Peter is writing his Epistle to people who were saved.
 - They were elect (1:2)
 - They were born again (1:3)
 - They loved Jesus Christ (1:7-8)

The Command to be holy

To be “holy” does NOT MEAN:

- “perfect” – no one is incapable of improving.
- a super-deluxe, special type of Christian.
- without fault.
- you do not need to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 3:18).

The Command to be holy

To be “holy” **MEANS:**

- “separated” or “set apart” to God as His **possession**.
- “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body” (1 Cor. 6:19-20).

The Command to be holy

To be “holy” **MEANS:**

- “separated” or “set apart” from willful, known sin.
- **1 Thessalonians 4:7** For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

The Command to be holy

Examples of what “holy” means.

- When God brought His redeemed people to Mt. Sinai, God said to them, “You shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people ... a holy nation” (Exod. 19:5-6).
- This illustrates “separated to God” as His possession.

The Command to be holy

Examples of what “holy” means.

- Leviticus 20:24, 26, “Hence I have said to you, ‘You are to possess their land, and I Myself will give it to you to possess it, a land flowing with milk and honey.’ I am the LORD your God, who has separated you.”

The Command to be holy

Examples of what “holy” means.

- Peter wrote, “The day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives” (2 Peter 3:10-11).

The Command to be holy

Examples of what “holy” means.

- Paul wrote, “What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, ‘I will dwell in them and walk among them; And I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Therefore, come out from their midst and be separate,’ says the Lord.

The Command to be holy

Examples of what “holy” means.

- ‘And do not touch what is unclean; And I will welcome you. And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me,’ Says the Lord Almighty.” Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God” (2 Cor 6:16-7:1)

The Reasons Why We Must Be Holy

- ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance,
- ¹⁵ but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,
- ¹⁶ since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

The Reasons Why We Must Be Holy

- We must be holy as an act of obedience.
- We must be holy because it is God's will and His command for all Christians.
- God calls all Christians to be holy.

The Reasons Why We Must Be Holy

Other reasons why we must be holy:

- We were created to be a holy people.
 - **Ephesians 1:4:** Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him.
- We must be holy to enter heaven.
 - **Hebrews 12:14:** Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification [holiness] without which no one will see the Lord.

The Constraints of holiness on our daily lives.

- ^{ESV} **1 Peter 1:13** Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
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The Constraints of holiness on our daily lives.

- In order to be holy we must prepare our minds.
 - “Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded”
- In order to be holy we must learn how to evaluate our attitudes and actions by the Bible.
 - “do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance.

The Constraints of holiness on our daily lives.

- In order to be holy we must know what it looks like:
 - The goal of holiness is “Christlike” attitudes and actions.
 - To be “holy” or Christlike I daily seek to keep my thoughts, attitudes, and actions within the boundaries of Scriptural teaching.
 - To be “holy” or Christlike, I seek to develop my relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Summary

- The **basic idea** of “holy” is “separation” – to be “set apart”:
 - “Set apart” **to** God as His possession.
 - “Set apart” **from** all that is sinful or displeasing to God.
- The **goal** of being holy is to become like Jesus in all our lifestyle.
- **Every day** I am to be “holy.”

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