

Sunday Morning, December 10, 2023  
What is Christ's Church? She is Holy  
1 Cor. 1:1–2; Heb. 12:14; 1 Pet. 1:14–16

- I. The Church's Identity In Christ— She is Counted Holy 1 Cor. 1:1–3
  - A. They Were God's Church 1 Cor. 1:1
  
  - B. They Were God's Holy People 1 Cor. 1:2; 1 Pet. 2:9; Matt. 16:18
  
- II. The Church's Calling in Christ— She Is to Be Holy
  - A. The Triune God is Committed to the Church's Holiness
    - 1. Growth in Holiness: Guaranteed by the Father's Election Eph. 1:3-4
  
    - 2. Growth in Holiness: Secured by the Son's Redemption Eph. 5:2; Eph. 5:25–27
  
    - 3. Growth in Holiness: Realized by the Spirit's Purification Phil. 2:13; Rom 8:13–14; Gal. 5:16ff
  
  - B. The True Believer is Committed to Personal Holiness
    - 1. Our Holiness Is a Command. Heb. 12:14; 1 Cor.. 6:9ff
  
    - 2. Our Holiness Is a Struggle. A Life-long Reality  
Heb. 12:14; 1 Pet. 1:13–17; Rev. 19:7–8; Phil. 3:14; 1 John 3:3–10
  
    - 3. Our Holiness is a Group Project Heb. 12:15; Heb. 10:24–25

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*Quotes*

“You can't make sense of the Bible without understanding that God is holy and this holy God is intent on making a holy people to live with him forever in a holy heaven.”  
Kevin DeYoung

“If you think that being a Christian is nothing more than saying a prayer or joining a church, then you've confused real grace with cheap grace. Those who are justified, will be sanctified.”  
Kevin DeYoung

“Though God does not elect men because he foresees they will live holy, yet he elects them that they may live holy. Thus God in the decree of election ordained that men should walk in good works. ‘Created . . . unto good works, which God has foreordained that we should walk in them’ (Eph. 2:10).”  
Jonathan Edwards

“When sin lets us alone we may not let sin alone; but as sin is never less quiet when it seems to be most quiet, and its waters are for the most part deep when they are still, so ought our contrivances against it to be vigorous at all times and in all conditions, even when there is least suspicion. There's no safety against sin, but in constant warfare. To not mortify sin, but to accept it, places one on the brink of hardness of heart, rebellion and to be deceived.”  
John Owen

“In reality, holiness is the goal of our redemption. As Christ died in order that we may be justified, so we are justified in order than we may be sanctified and made holy.”  
J I Packer

“I bless God that our salvation in no wise depends on our own works. . . . But I never would have any believer for a moment forget that our sense of salvation depends much on the manner of our living.”  
J C Ryle

“True Christians will continue to struggle with sin throughout their lives. But the key word here is "struggle." False professors of Christian faith (i.e., "Christians in name only") love, embrace, condone and rationalize their sin; but soundly converted Christians admit, confess, hate and grieve over their remaining sin, and earnestly seek to fight against it. This fight is a chief sign of the Holy Spirit's renewing and sanctifying work in the soul.”  
A W Pink

“True, His love for me is not based on my qualifications or my preparation. But it is misleading to say that God accepts us the way we are. Rather He accepts us despite the way we are. He receives us only in Christ and for Christ’s sake. Nor does He mean to leave us the way He found us, but to transform us into the likeness of His Son. Without that transformation and new conformity of life we do not have any evidence that we were ever His in the first place.”  
Sinclair Ferguson

“Holiness is the only evidence of election. For one who lives in sin to claim to be elected unto holiness is a contradiction.”  
Charles Hodge

“For though obedience does not make us children, as the gift of adoption is gratuitous, yet it distinguishes children from aliens. . . . Hence we learn what Christians ought to propose to themselves as an object throughout life, that is, to resemble God in holiness and purity.”  
John Calvin

”My fear is that as we rightly celebrate, and in some quarters rediscover, all that Christ has saved us from, we are giving little thought and making little effort concerning all that Christ has saved us to.”  
Kevin DeYoung

“It sounds really spiritual to say God is interested in a relationship, not in rules. But it’s not biblical. From top to bottom the Bible is full of commands. They aren’t meant to stifle a relationship with God, but to protect it, seal it, and define it. “Just like if you love your wife, you’ll keep your vow to be faithful to her as long as you both shall live. The demand for sexual fidelity does not pervert the marriage relationship; it promotes and demonstrates it. In the same way, God’s commands are given as a means of grace so that we might grow in godliness and show that we love him.”  
Kevin DeYoung

“He who does truly accept Christ as a Savior accepts him as a Savior from sin, and not only as a Savior from the punishment of sin. But it is impossible that anyone should heartily receive Christ as a Savior from sin and the ways of sin, if he is not one who sincerely has a mind to part with all the ways of sin; for he who has not a mind that sin and he should be separated cannot have a mind to receive a Savior to part them.”  
Jonathan Edwards

“The faithfulness of the Lord’s people will also be displayed, not as the basis of their acceptance, but to show the reality of their faith in the Savior.”  
Edmund Clowney

“Do you hunger and thirst after holiness? Do you long to live a holy life, to be conformed to God, to have your conduct day by day better regulated, and more spiritual, more to God’s glory, and more such as becomes a Christian? Is this what you love and pray for, and long for, and live for?”  
Jonathan Edwards