

THE INSIDE RUNNING

Often as men we struggle with issues that we see as causing us to be separate from God. In some way, we don't feel "good enough". Holiness goes to the heart of this.

We need to constantly focus on our relationship with God and invest time into that. This should not be out of duty but from our desire to know Him better. The natural outcome of that friendship is to leave sin behind. This is not performance-based Christianity, where we have our 'shopping list' of sins to overcome. When we fail there, the danger is feeling like a failure as a Christian and becoming somehow disqualified.

If instead we are focusing on our relationship with God, we will want to be with like-minded people, especially other men. A natural outcome is to live in peace with others, not contention.

The quality of holiness is lived out in our lives as righteousness and integrity. The real test of this is how you handle adversity and respond when others create problems for you. People can see integrity in us, that we are reflecting Christ to them.

John Subritzky



God Makes Us Holy

June 2012

Partakers of His Holiness

by Derek Prince

Holiness is a unique attribute of God. God has many other attributes—such as love, wisdom and power—which we can understand to some extent by reference to people or things in the natural realm that display these attributes. But holiness has no parallel in the natural; it is unique. John Wesley defined holiness as "perfect love". However, I prefer to define holiness as a combination of God's righteousness and love. Love invites you to come; righteousness says that you are unfit to come. There is this built-in tension in holiness.

A Characteristic of God's People

God's Word tells us that holiness is to be a characteristic of the people of God. Consider Hebrews 12:9–10: *"Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He [God] for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness."*

God's desire is that we may partake of His holiness. Verse 14 of Hebrews 12 adds, *"Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord."*

First, we are to pursue holiness—we are to make it an objective.

Second, to achieve holiness, we must pursue peace with all people. We are to attempt to live peaceably, not allowing

quarrelling or disagreement that is within our power to avoid. The writer of Hebrews here also issues a very solemn warning. He says we will not see the Lord unless we become partakers of His holiness.

A scripture that expresses God's desire for holiness in His people is 1 Thessalonians 4:3: ***"For this is the will of God, your sanctification"***. What, precisely, is sanctification?

Any verb ending in -ify means "to cause to become" that which comes before it... Sanctify means "to make sanct". Sanct is the same as saint... All three words - sanctify, saint, holy - are derived from one basic Greek word *hagios*, meaning holy. Very simply, therefore, sanctification is "the process of making holy".

Thus, we can accurately translate 1 Thessalonians 4:3, ***"For this is the will of God, that you be made holy... that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification [a condition of holiness] and honour"***. This verse contains a common phrase in modern English: "know how." It takes scriptural know-how to achieve a condition of holiness.

A person's vessel is his body—the earthen vessel of the human spirit. Many Christians speak as if the body were something evil—something to be ashamed of. The body is not evil, it is good. It is one of the supreme achievements of God's creative genius. David said, ***"I am fearfully and wonderfully made"*** (Psalm 139:14). He viewed his body with awe and wonder. >



First, we are to pursue holiness—we are to make it an objective.

➤ Why should believers know how to keep their bodies in a condition of holiness? We may answer this by combining two Scriptures: *"The Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands"* (Acts 7:48); and *"Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you?"* (1 Corinthians 6:19). God has ordained one temple on earth to dwell in. It is not a temple made with hands, but the body of the believer. Therefore, each one of us needs to know how to keep his body in a condition fit for God to dwell in.

The Agents of Sanctification

How does Scripture picture the process of sanctification, and what part do we play in it? As I understand it, there are five agents of sanctification.

- **The Holy Spirit** - Without the Holy Spirit there is no hope of our becoming holy. In sanctification, the initiative is with God. It begins with God's choice of us, made in eternity.
- **The Word** - Jesus prayed to the Father for His disciples: *"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth"* (John 17:17). It is the Holy Spirit that renews our mind. He does it through the truth, which is the Word of God.
- **Faith** - God's Spirit and God's Word never vary, but it is our faith that enables us to receive what God offers through these agents. The process of sanctification will only be as effective as our faith allows it to be.
- **The Blood of Jesus** - Jesus shed His blood for many purposes. One was to redeem us. Another was to sanctify or set us apart to God and make us holy (Hebrews 13:12). If we continually walk in the light, we continually have fellowship, and the blood of Jesus continually keeps us clean.
- **The Altar** - the place of sanctification. The inward change in our thoughts and motives cannot be achieved until we have renounced all rights over our own bodies and placed them without reservation upon God's altar, to be used as God desires.

See full article on this month's DVD ROM



"... So that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19

Geoff Wiklund has a heart to see the wounded healed and to spark encouragement in pastors. This will be a time to grow together and come to a great place in God.

Auckland 27-28 June. Limited to 40 places. \$40 per person. Open to men and women pastors.



Promise Keepers launches its first ever Men's Event in the Samoan language to inspire Samoan men to live as mighty men of valour - "Tama Tane Malosi".

More info and video: www.promisekeepers.org.nz

What's on the DVD

NEXT ISSUE: REACHING THE NEXT GENERATION

FEATURED SPEAKER:

Graeme Lauridsen - "Holiness - The Battle for Your Heart"

What are the things that hold you back from wholeheartedly following God? Graeme helps us to recognise the problems, repent from them and be redeemed for holiness. Graeme has been involved in Christian leadership development and is a contagious visionary with a zeal for God and a passion to raise a new generation of leaders. 31 min

PANEL: Defining Boundaries

The panel discusses how any man can define what his boundaries are around his sexuality. They answer some questions texted in by the men at PK. 36 min

BONUS FEATURES:

- **My Story** - Chris Calder 2 min 26
- **PK Music** - Majesty 3 min 36
- **Break Free 2012 Men's Event Promo** 1 min 12
- **Refreshed & Released Pastors' Conference Promo** 1 min 30
- **Tama Tane Malosi Samoan Event Promo** 2 min
- **Field Rep** - Gary Fursdon 2 min 26
- **How to Open the DVD ROM** 4 min 11

HUMOUR CLIPS: This selection includes some miraculous near-miss car vs pedestrian clips and Roger Federer does a "William Tell" with a tennis ball. There are also the usual funny clips! 4 min 21

BETTER WORK STORIES: Workmen in the Waioeka Gorge



evacuate as a landslide crashes down on their trucks. As the whole hillside moves, trees and debris just keep coming. 37 sec

DVD ROM

Access these using Windows Explorer on a PC

ARTICLES: Including Derek Prince - Partakers of His Holiness; Rejection to Acceptance Pt 2 (Thanks to *Derek Prince Ministries* for supplying a hard copy of this article with this issue of *WiseChoices*); Francis Frangipane - Bitterness in the Garden of Our Hearts; Gary Smalley - Acceptance Turns Away Anger; Doug Weiss - Bring on the Boundaries; Ian Buckley - When People Hurt You at Work; 30 Ways I Love Thee; Life's Meaning

RESOURCES: PK Men's Small Group Weekly Studies; *Game On* Comments AKL; Bill Subritzky - Receiving God's Healing; *Break Free Advance Brochure*; Study Questions - Graeme Lauridsen; Bible Reading Plans

MP3s: Including Derek Prince - Holiness the Jesus Way 59 min • PKUSA Classic: Tom Eisenman - Strategies for Beating Temptation 42 min • PKNZ Classics: Bill Subritzky "Hearing God" Men on Fire 04 26 min • David Dishrow "Drifting" Fuel 07 30 min • Tavale Matai'a "Reconciliation" The Challenge 03 33 min • Graeme Lauridsen "Holiness - The Battle for Your Heart" 31 min • Defining Boundaries Panel 36 min • PK Music: Majesty 3 min 36



Act now and take the next step to freedom and victory!

- ◆ Christchurch 24-25 Aug 2012
- ◆ Wellington 14-15 Sep 2012
- ◆ Auckland 5-6 Oct 2012

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Men's Events 2012

