

# WHAT IS HOLINESS?



Faith Apostolic Church of Christ

# DEFINITION OF HOLINESS:

- Holiness refers to God's absolute moral purity. He can neither sin nor tolerate sin. God is absolutely perfect in righteousness, and in Him is not the slightest degree of imperfection or impurity.
- The root meaning of the word holy mean “separated” or set apart. It means to withdraw from what is common or unclean and be consecrated to what is sacred and pure.
- We can clearly see the “holiness” of God in both the Old and New Testament scriptures

# OLD TESTAMENT/NEW TESTAMENT

- “And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and ***an holy nation***. *These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.*” Exodus 19:6
- “Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; ***be ye clean***, that bear the vessels of the LORD. For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight: for the LORD will go before you; and the God of Israel will be your reward.” Isaiah 52:11-12
- “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, ***an holy nation***, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light” I Peter 2:9
- “Wherefore come out from among them, and ***be ye separate***, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.” II Cor 6:17-18

# OLD TESTAMENT/NEW TESTAMENT

- “For I am the Lord your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall **be holy; for I am holy**: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.” Leviticus 11:44
- “But as he which hath called you is holy, so **be ye holy** in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.” 1 Peter 1:15-16
- “Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, **perfecting holiness** in the fear of God.” 2 Corinthians 7:1
- “And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and **true holiness**.” Ephesians 4:24
- “For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but **unto holiness**.” 1 Thessalonians 4:7

# TWO COMPONENTS

- Specifically, holiness consists of two components:
  - (1) Separation from sin and worldliness - (2 Corinthians 6:17-7:1).
  - (2) Dedication to God and His will - (Romans 12:1-2).
- Holiness involves both the inner man and the outer man: (I Corinthians 6:19-20; I Thessalonians 5:23). We must perfect holiness by cleansing ourselves of filthiness both of the flesh and of the spirit (II Corinthians 7:1).
- Holiness is not simply refusing to do evil things, for even unbelievers can practice self-control. True holiness is more than conquering temptation: it is conquering *the desire to disobey God*.
- Holiness, then, includes attitudes, thoughts, and spiritual stewardship on the one hand and actions, appearance, and physical stewardship on the other. One without the other is insufficient. Inward holiness will produce outward holiness, but the outward appearance of holiness is worthless without inward holiness.

# SEPERATION & DEDICATION

- *“Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be friend of the world is the enemy of God” (James 4:4).*
- *“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world” (I John 2:15-16).*
- *“One important aspect of pure and undefiled religion is for a person to keep himself unspotted from the world” (James 1:27).*

# LIVING A HOLY LIFE REQUIRES PERSONAL EFFORT

- Holiness does not come automatically as we rest passively. Although the Holy Ghost accomplishes the work of sanctification, each person has a definite responsibility in becoming holy. It is his responsibility to bring himself to, and keep himself under the sanctifying influence of God's Holy Word. He does so by confession, surrender, consecration, dedication, separation from the world, faith, and obedience to God's word and will.
- We must yield our lives to the working of the Holy Spirit.
- We must actively implement/apply the spiritual principles of the Word into our life.
- We must resist the devil.
- We must subdue/crucify the sinful nature, and
- We must discipline the flesh.

# THUS, THE BIBLE TEACHES,

- ◉ *“Reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God” (Romans 6:11-13).*
- ◉ *“I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.” (Romans 8:19).*
- ◉ *“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you” (James 4:7-8).*
- ◉ *“Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.” (II Peter 3:14).*



# WHY MUST WE BECOME HOLY?

## Because God said so!

- ◉ God is Holy - Apart from the presence and power of the Holy Ghost in a person's life, which causes him to become a new creation, a person can never become holy on his own.
- ◉ No Fellowship - There can be no fellowship with a Holy God without man acquiring holiness.
- ◉ No Growth - Impossible to bring forth Holy fruit without the presence of the Holy Ghost in your heart (Matthew 7:17-18)
- ◉ No Heaven - Heaven is a prepared place, prepared by a holy God for a holy people. "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14).