

The apostle Peter writes, **“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 Pet 1:15-16). This is the forgotten commandment today. Not only is our God is gracious, he is also pure, sinless, and undefiled and commands the same of us.

Holiness is connected to the word sanctified. Once something has been set apart (sanctified) for God’s exclusive use, it is then said to be **“holy.”** In the Old Testament some things were called holy: the rooms in the tabernacle (Ex 26:33), Aaron’s garments (Ex 28:2), etc. The scriptures themselves are even called holy (2 Tim 3:15), but you and I have to work at it! Charles Spurgeon once remarked, “Holiness is not the way to Christ, but Christ is the way to holiness.”

The Lord Jesus said, **“He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing”**

(John 15:5)

Some will protest that proclaiming holy standards, personal virtues, and righteous conduct amounts to some kind of “legalism.” Spoken like a true carnal Christian. They will remember that salvation is **“by grace...through faith...not of works”** (Eph 2:8-9), but then fail to notice verse 10,

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus UNTO GOOD WORKS, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”

Paul writes, **“For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, BUT UNTO HOLINESS”** (1 Thes 4:7).

“...let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, PERFECTING HOLINESS in the fear of God”

(2 Cor 7:1).