

A Few Thoughts To Ponder

“And they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, like to the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD. And they tied unto it a lace of blue, to fasten it on high upon the mitre; as the LORD commanded Moses”, Exodus 39:30–31. Holiness here comes from the Hebrew qodesh, (ko'-desh), and means – a sacred place or thing; consecrated, dedicated, hallowed, or even as a sanctuary.

In Acts 3:12 we read “And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? Or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk”?

Holiness here comes from the Greek word eusebeia, (yoo-seb'-I-ah), meaning holiness through the gospel scheme, for Christ (holiness) is now IN us, and not, as in Old Testament times, attached to a garment on top of our heads.

The command is only made to believers, not unbelievers, for unbelievers cannot be holy no matter how hard they try because they do not have the righteousness of Jesus Christ dwelling in them. Holiness and righteousness are identical, and the believer has become as holy as God is holy.

Since man can 'do' neither outside Christ, sin can only mean having your own way, and missing God. This leads to death. Righteousness practices the will of God, and leads to everlasting life.

What is a BELIEVER? A person who accepts the will (WAYS) of God and never turns away from them back into self will.

PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

How do we pray 'in the Spirit'?

We cannot enter the fullness of the body of Christ unless the RELATIONSHIP is there.

After a domestic, a man and his wife were giving each other the silent treatment at home.

The next week, the man realized that he would need his wife to wake him at 5:00 AM for an early morning business flight to Chicago.

Not wanting to be the first to break the silence (AND LOSE), he wrote

on a piece of paper, "Please wake me at 5:00 AM."

The next morning the man woke up, only to discover it was 9:00 A.M and that he had missed his flight. Furious, he was about to go and see why his wife hadn't woken him when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed. The paper said, "It is 5:00 AM. Wake up."

This must be why the command to love the LORD with ALL our heart, soul, mind and might comes FIRST. We will always talk to the one we love.

The POWER that we receive from the Holy Spirit is the power to have the same relationship with the Father as Jesus does. We assume (or PRESUME) that the POWER is given so we can 'take authority' over our surroundings and 'get stuff'.

These things FOLLOW; they are the product of the FIRST THING, which is a mutually loving relationship with a Holy God. Our reward is not based on mighty acts and revelations, but our relationship with the Lord.

We learn His ways and desire them.
THIS is living by faith.
This is what He looks for.