

SERVING GOD IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND IN HOLINESS

TEXT: Luke 1:74-75:

74 That He would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve Him without fear,

75 In Holiness and Righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

INTRODUCTION:

These blessed words are coming from the lips of a dear man, just freshly filled with the Holy Ghost. Spirit-filled people speak entirely different from those without the filling.

Take notice that:

- **We are to serve Him all the days of our lives.**
- **We are to serve Him without fear.**
- **We are to serve Him in Holiness and Righteousness.**

These two divine qualities of service, — **Holiness and Righteousness** — are not one and the same. They are not synonyms to each other. They are related but very different.

- A. Holiness is our character.**
- B. Righteousness is our conduct.**
- C. Holiness is our relationship to our Heavenly Father.**
- D. Righteousness is our relationship to our fellow mankind.**



A Christian brother said: *“I do not believe in this righteous Holiness business.”* My response was: *“The devil doesn’t either, so you have already got somebody on your side.”*

“GOD DOES!!!” It is recorded in His Word.

A. 1 Peter 1:15-16:

15 But as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye Holy in all manner of conversation;

16 Because it is written, Be ye Holy; for I am Holy.

B. Hebrews 12:14: Follow peace with all men, and Holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

C. Ephesians 1:4: According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be Holy and without blame before Him in love:

Question: Do you know how our Lord will bring the ransomed home?

Answer: It is over the way of Holiness, which is a way on which no unclean person can pass. It is recorded in:

Isaiah 35:8: And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

Question: What is Holiness: What is Righteousness?

Answer: Since both words are uttered by this Spirit-filled priest of the Lord who is the father of John the Baptist, they need to be studied more carefully, honestly, and diligently.

I have made this observation while searching through the scriptures on these two subjects — that they come in pairs in a number of other places, with Righteousness preceding Holiness.



Romans 6:19: 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.

Ephesians 4:24: And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in Righteousness and true Holiness.

2 Peter 2:21: For it had been better for them not to have known the way of Righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the Holy Commandment delivered unto them.

SCRIPTURAL DEFINITION OF Righteousness IN:

Luke 1:6: And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.

Romans 6:16-18:

¹⁶ Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto Righteousness?

¹⁷ But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of Doctrine which was delivered you.

¹⁸ Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of Righteousness.

We reach the best of Righteousness when we come into Holiness. It is like Righteousness in the twilight coming into Holiness in the daylight. This daylight should increase more and more. That is why we read in:

2 Corinthians 7:1: 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.

Thus, a little Holiness is better than none; Yet a lot of a Holiness is much better than having a little. **Holiness is accomplished *only* through the work of The Holy Spirit on and in us.**

Romans 8:13: For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

1 Peter 1:22: Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

Through sanctification of the spirit:

1 Peter 1:2: Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the Blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Sanctification brings us into Holiness.

Leviticus 11:44: 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 20:7-8:

⁷ Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God.

⁸ And ye shall keep My Statutes, and do them: I am the LORD which sanctify you.

Leviticus 21:8: Thou shalt sanctify him therefore; for he offereth the bread of thy God: he shall be holy unto thee: for I the LORD, which sanctify you, am holy.

Righteousness will keep your Holiness from becoming hard-hearted Holiness.

Holiness will keep your Righteousness from becoming soft and flabby.



Your Righteousness is actually not your own. It comes from our Lord Jesus Christ.

Always remember: Your Righteousness is actually not your own. It comes from our Lord Jesus Christ.

A. Isaiah 45:24: Surely, shall one say, in the LORD have I Righteousness and strength: even to Him shall men come; and all that are incensed against Him shall be ashamed.

B. Isaiah 54:17: No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their Righteousness is of Me, saith the LORD.

C. Isaiah 32:17: And the work of Righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of Righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.

- D. ***Jeremiah 23:6: In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is His Name whereby He shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.***
- E. ***Jeremiah 33:16: In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our Righteousness.***
- F. ***1 Corinthians 1:30: But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and Righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:***
- G. ***2 Corinthians 5:21: For He hath made Him to be sin for us, Who knew no sin; that we might be made the Righteousness of God in Him.***
- H. ***Romans 4:5: But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him Who Justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for Righteousness.***
- I. ***1 John 3:7: Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth Righteousness is Righteous, even as He is Righteous. Romans 5:17: For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of Righteousness shall reign in life by One, Jesus Christ.***

When you and I receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, that's when Righteousness begins in us. When we so cherish the Lord Jesus and His Righteousness, we press on into Holiness which is advanced Righteousness. That is: Holiness is Righteousness in its completed work.

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Does this message bless your soul? It does mine. **Let us give ourselves wholly to Christ for this deeper work of grace to be wrought in us, thus making us truly ready for THE RAPTURE, the Second Coming of Christ.**

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