

Be Holy, For I Am Holy

By Ron Boatwright

God's word to us says, "But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, 'Be holy, for I am holy'" (1 Peter 1:15-16). To be holy we are told to present our "bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God" (2 Corinthians 7:1), and "that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love" (Ephesians 1:4).

We must be holy in all our thoughts, actions, dress, and speech. If our thoughts are not holy then our actions, dress, and speech will not be holy. "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7). We act as we think. If we want to be pure and holy then we will have "sound speech that cannot be condemned" (Titus 2:8). Those who are holy will "adorn themselves in modest apparel" (1 Timothy 2:9).

We must have a pure heart and lead a holy life in order to see God in eternity. "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8). One who does not lead a holy life cannot go to Heaven. We are to "Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). This life is so short and temporary. "Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness" (2 Peter 3:11). So we can be pleasing to God and go to Heaven when this life is over, "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (2 Corinthians 7:1). To fear God we must hold Him in the highest respect and do anything and everything He says.