



**THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD**  
Anointed Chapel Brampton

**DIGGING DEEP**

**TOPIC: HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD**

**October 14, 2020**

**Text: Zechariah 14:20-21, 1 Peter 1:13-16**

**INTRODUCTION:** Holiness is a word that can make us feel uneasy. It seems lofty, intimidating and strange. We instinctively sense that God's holiness has dangerous overtones or implications. His purity calls our sinful attachments into question, demanding that we forsake them in order to enjoy His infinite love and power. In **Leviticus 19:2** God instructed Moses to tell children of Israel "I am the LORD your God, am holy, you shall be holy".

**KEY POINTS FROM OUR PASSAGES (Zechariah 14:20-21)**

(A) Holiness shall hereafter become universal in its extent. It shall be written upon the bells or bridles of the horses. (2) Holiness shall then become entire in its influence. It shall not be partial and defective; but perfect and complete (3) Holiness shall be open to all, free from any false feeling of shame, or fear of reproach.

(B) **1 Peter 1:13-16:** "Gird up the loins of your mind"— is imagery of having a robe on, getting ready for action, not leaving the robe loose which might impeding progress and movement, but gathering it up and tightening the belt. This imagery is transferred to your mind to get ready to think. Be sober, think properly, be alert. Vs14 "Lusts" – "strong desires" (the desires could be good or bad). In this context, the bad aspect of it are the unbiblical strong desires and unbiblical motivations we had before we were saved) "in our ignorance" Vs 15: "In all manner of conversation"- "our lifestyle" – here is speaking of all our attitudes and actions. We are to be holy in every aspect of our life. In Vs 16: "We are to be holy, because God is holy"

**(C)WHAT CAN BE HOLY?**

Time, space, objects, and people—all can become holy if they belong to God. The temple in Jerusalem was considered holy space, and the objects used in worship holy objects. The Sabbaths and feasts of Israel were considered holy days or seasons. And the Israelites were called God's holy people by virtue of belonging to him.

**(1)FOR OUR UNDERSTANDING**

To be "holy" is not sinless perfection. This simple statement may not be correct because Holiness is not even about sin. Else, how could a garment, or oil, or a day be holy?

The Bible speaks of many things as being holy, the altar (Gen 12:7, 26:25, 33:20) (days John 7:37) (offerings 1 Chronicles 29:9) (field Lev 27:21,

John 4:35) (house 1 Corinth 3:16) (tithe Leviticus 27:30-34) and (perfume 2 Corinth 2:15)( holy place Deut.12:5 Hebrews 10:19) (crown Rev 2:10,James 1:12) (convocations Leviticus 23:4) (Sabbaths Exodus 16:23) and (gifts 1 Corinth 12:28) etc. Therefore, "holy" cannot mean sinless. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but **holy men of God** spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost (2 Peter 1:21)

## **(2) HOLINESS IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE!**

It's possible for me and for you to be holy!

## **(3) HOLINESS BEGINS IN THE HEART**

(1) Although the word "holy" is not synonymous with "sinless," it does, when applied to people, carry a certain connotation of a cleaner life. A person is living to please God and not men, will naturally have less sin in their life.

(2) To be holy unto the Lord, requires that we have a clean heart and life. Not sinless perfection, but a dedication to God and to striving for a clean life that God can use.

(3) We cannot devote to God a dirty life for His use. God does not use a dirty vessel. (2 Timothy 2:21)

**THE CONSTRAINTS OF HOLINESS** (1 Peter 1:13-14) Peter's statement is similar to Paul's statement in Romans 12:2, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect." Both Peter and Paul are warning against worldliness. Worldliness may be defined as any attitude, action, or behavior that does not conform to God's Word.

**CONCLUSION:** Holiness is a heart issue. Our dedication and commitment to God starts in our hearts. Else, we are no better than the Pharisees Jesus called hypocrites, who appear on the outside to be committed to the service of the Lord, but a lot of outward show which did not please God.