

“The Truth That Leads to Godliness.”

Text: Titus 1 – Oct 14, 2018

FOCUS: Our text speaks of God’s call to HOLINESS or Godliness.

Our key verse is *Titus 1:1* (NIV 2011): *the truth that leads to godliness...*

The cry of the heart that has been truly redeemed is for **holiness**. In our fallen state, when convicted of our sins, we seek God’s forgiveness and pardon from judgment so as to be saved! It is **holy fire insurance** that we seek and **find** in Jesus Christ! But after being saved, the Holy Spirit calls us to go deeper...deeper into our souls and spirits to see that we are still **carnal** although saved. We may **have** been forgiven and pardoned, but many have NOT yet been **FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT**. We have been **born of the Spirit, but not bathed in the Spirit**. It is God’s plan and purpose that we be **both saved and fully sanctified**. Let me share four visuals here.

What does it take to do so?

1) Be Saved or Get Saved – you cannot be filled with the Spirit until you are first saved.

2) Acknowledge that you are not yet filled with the Holy Spirit.

3) Believe that God WANTS you to be filled with His Holy Spirit.

4) Believe also that what God calls you to possess He will **provide** to you through Faith.

5) Seek it with your whole heart.

6) Receive it by Faith in God’s Word, the Bible.

- **Ephesians 5:17-18** (NIV 2018): *Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit...* (emphasis added).

Notice that there is no compromise here. The context makes clear that this IS God’s standard. He is NOT suggesting some way out from under it, like: “Well, if one can be blameless 75% of the time that should be enough!”

DON’T ARGUE FOR SIN! Set your eyes on God’s holiness and don’t look back!!!

Seek and serve God’s holiness in you. “But what happens if I fail and sin?” **Keep a SHORT LIST**. Confess and Repent quickly and let the Holy Spirit both cleanse (**1 John 1:9**) you and refill you with the Holy Spirit.

Here is what God wants for each of us:

1. _____ sins.

2. _____

3. _____ that Jesus paid the full penalty for your sins.

4. _____ Jesus Christ into your heart and be saved.

5. _____ your need to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

6. _____ the Holy Spirit fully.

Salvation/Sanctification – two sides of same coin.