

“How Holiness Can Change Your Thinking”

KG Yama October 14, 2018

God’s Holiness changes our thinking in two important ways:

- 1) In our Identity in Christ
- 2) In our Focus in Christ

Our New Identity in Christ

God says He’s the one that’s made you holy.

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ **For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.** In love ⁵ he^[bl] predestined us for adoption to sonship^[cl] through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷ **In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace** ⁸ that he lavished on us. *Eph 1:3-7*

Holiness is the unique work of Christ

*Do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by **the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus** before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, **2 Timothy 1:8-10***

The Rev. Billy Graham on Holiness:

Are Christians a truly holy people? Or are we TRYING to become a holy people?... As an oak sapling grows, it doesn’t get “oakier.” An oak is an oak. It simply matures into what it is, a full-grown oak tree.

Read Luke 4 – Jesus Holiness Tested in the Wilderness

He’s not identified with performance, possessions, and popularity

Adding work to PROVE we’re holy only minimizes the perfect work of the Cross.

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Our New Focus in Christ

Accomplishing His Holiness through His Promises

*"Therefore, **since we have these promises**, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, **perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.**"*
2 Corinthians 7:1

“**Perfecting holiness,**”— means to have it completed or accomplished IN you

What We Magnify, We Identify With

*For as he thinks in his heart, so is he [in behavior] **Proverbs 23:7***

Focus on Promise, Not the Problem

Read Joshua 14 about Moses, Joshua and Caleb

One group focused on the size of their obstacles, the other focused on the size of their God's promise.

What We Magnify, We Make Bigger

I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

*I sought the LORD, and **he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.** Psalms 34*

Apply God's Promises to Your Day-to-Day Giants

The Promise of Sufficiency

*His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature. **2 Peter 1:3-4***

The Promise of Purpose

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." **Jeremiah 29:11***

The Promise of Pardon

*Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. **Romans 8:1-2***

The Promise of Permanence

*My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. **John 10:27-29***

The Promise of Presence

*God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." **Hebrews 13:5***

The Promise of Peace

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:6-7***

The Promise of Provision

*And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:19***

The Promise of Power

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. **Acts 1:8***

The Promise of Participation

*He has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. **2 Peter 1:4***

The Promise of Persecution

*In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. **2 Timothy 3:12***

The Promise of Paradise

*Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. **John 14:1-3***