

THOUGHTS ON HOLINESS

*Heb. 12:14 "Pursue peace with all people, and holiness,
without which no one will see the Lord...."*

SCRIPTURE

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2
3 Lev. 11:44 "For I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore consecrate
4 yourselves, and **you shall be holy; for I am holy.**"
5
6 Lev. 19:2 "Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to
7 them: 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.'
8
9 Lev. 20:7 "**Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy**, for I am the LORD
10 your God. "
11
12 Lev. 20:26 "And you **shall be holy to Me**, for I the LORD **am holy, and have**
13 **separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine.**"
14
15 Deut. 7:6 "For **you are a holy people to the LORD** your God; the LORD your
16 **God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above**
17 **all the peoples** on the face of the earth."
18
19 Deut. 23:14 "For the LORD your God **walks in the midst of your camp**, to
20 deliver you and give your enemies over to you; **therefore your camp shall be**
21 **holy**, that He may see **no unclean thing among you, and turn away from**
22 **you.**"
23
24 Deut. 28:9 "The LORD **will establish you as a holy people to Himself**, just as
25 He has sworn to you, **if you keep the commandments** of the LORD your God
26 and **walk in His ways.**"
27
28 Ps. 15:1-5 "LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in
29 Your holy hill? ²He who **walks uprightly**, And **works righteousness**, And
30 **speaks the truth** in his heart; ³He who **does not backbite** with his tongue,
31 **Nor does evil** to his neighbor, Nor does he **take up a reproach against his**
32 **friend**; ⁴In whose eyes **a vile person is despised**, But **he honors those who**
33 **fear the LORD**; He who **swears to his own hurt** and does not change; ⁵He
34 who **does not put out his money at usury**, Nor does **he take a bribe against**
35 **the innocent.**"
36
37 Ps. 24:3-5 "Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in
38 His holy place? He who has **clean hands** and **a pure heart**, Who **has not**
39 **lifted up his soul to an idol**, Nor **sworn deceitfully**. He **shall receive**
40 **blessing** from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation."
41

42 Isa. 35:8 “A highway shall be there, and a road, And **it shall be called the**
43 **Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it**, But it shall be for
44 others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, Shall not go astray.”
45
46 Isa. 35:15,16 “He who **walks righteously** and **speaks uprightly**, He who
47 **despises the gain of oppressions**, Who gestures with his hands, **refusing**
48 **bribes**, Who **stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed**, And **shuts his eyes**
49 **from seeing evil: He will dwell on high**; His place of defense will be the
50 fortress of rocks; Bread will be given him, His water will be sure.”
51
52 Isa. 66:2 “...on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a contrite
53 spirit, And **who trembles at My word.**”
54
55 Matt. 5:48 “**Be ye therefore perfect**, even as your Father which is in heaven
56 is perfect.”
57
58 Rom. 6:19 “... **now present your members as slaves of righteousness for**
59 **holiness.**”
60
61 Rom. 12:12 “And be not conformed to this world: but **be ye transformed** by
62 the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and
63 acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”
64
65 2 Cor. 7:1 “Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse
66 ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the
67 fear of God....”
68
69 Eph. 1:4 “...he chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we
70 should be holy and without blame before Him in love,”
71
72 Eph. 4:24 “and that you put on the new man which was created according to
73 God, in true righteousness and holiness.”
74
75 Eph. 5:25-27 “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church
76 and gave Himself for her, that He might **sanctify and cleanse her with the**
77 **washing of water by the word**, that He might present her to Himself a
78 **glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle** or any such thing, but **that she**
79 **should be holy and without blemish.**”
80
81 Heb. 12:14 “Pursue **peace with all people, and holiness**, without which no
82 one will see the Lord....”
83
84 1 Pet. 1:15,16 “but as He who called you is holy, **you also be holy in all your**
85 **conduct**, because it is written, ‘Be holy, for I am holy.’”
86
87 Rev. 22:11 “He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him
88 be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; **he who is holy,**
89 **let him be holy still.**”
90

91

92

93 It is not a conclusive evidence that a man is a Christian because he manifests
 94 spiritual ecstasy under extraordinary circumstances. **Holiness is not rapture:**
 95 **it is an entire surrender of the will to God; it is living by every word that**
 96 **proceeds from the mouth of God; it is doing the will of our heavenly**
 97 **Father; it is trusting God in trial, in darkness as well as in the light; it is**
 98 **walking by faith and not by sight; it is relying on God with unquestioning**
 99 **confidence, and resting in His love.** {AA 51.2}

100

101 Holiness is **constant agreement with God.** {ST, June 21, 1905 par. 3}

102

103 What constitutes **true piety. It is the doing of the words of Christ.** It is
 104 guided and controlled by the precepts of the Bible. {1888 1305.1}

105

106 **Holiness to God is glorifying Him by the entire conformity of the human**
 107 **will to the divine.** There is a clean, pure mind. The soul and the body, as
 108 Christ's purchased possession, is to be presented to God without spot or
 109 wrinkle, or any such thing. This will prove the counteracting of Satan's
 110 ingenious work to ruin man. This is the re-creation of the human agent
 111 through Jesus Christ's merits; a clean thing is brought out of an unclean,
 112 restoring the image of God in man. The human agent is to go forward to reach
 113 the highest standard of perfection of character by beholding the character of
 114 Jesus Christ.--Letter 17a, 1893, pp. 6, 7. (To Edgar Caro, October 2,
 115 1893.){7MR 274.4}

116

117 Are we ready to sit down and count the cost, and conclude that heaven is
 118 worth the sacrifice of **dying to self, of having our will brought into perfect**
 119 **conformity with the will of God?** Until we are willing, the transforming
 120 grace of God will not be manifested upon us. When we present our emptied
 121 nature to God, he will by his Holy Spirit supply the vacuum made by the
 122 renunciation of self, and give us of his fullness. {ST, November 21, 1892 par.
 123 4}

124

125 I spoke again about thirty minutes in reference to **genuine sanctification,**
 126 **which is nothing less than a daily dying to self, and daily conformity to**
 127 **the will of God.** {ST, September 12, 1878 par. 8}

128

129 **True holiness is wholeness in the service of God.** This is the condition of
 130 true Christian living. **Christ asks for an unreserved consecration, for**
 131 **undivided service.** He demands the heart, the mind, the soul, the strength.
 132 **Self is not to be cherished. He who lives to himself is not a Christian.**
 133 {COL 48.4}

134

135 **No one can be omnipotent, but all can cleanse themselves from filthiness**
 136 **of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord.** God
 137 requires every soul to be pure and holy. We have hereditary tendencies to
 138 wrong. This is a part of self that no one need carry about. It is a weakness of
 139 humanity to pet selfishness, because it is a natural trait of character. But

140 **unless all selfishness is put away, unless self is crucified, we can never be**
141 **holy as God is holy.** {FLB 140.4}

142
143 **God requires moral perfection in all.** Those who have been given light and
144 opportunities **should, as God's stewards, aim for perfection, and never,**
145 **never lower the standard of righteousness to accommodate inherited and**
146 **cultivated tendencies to wrong.** Christ took upon Him our human nature, and
147 lived our life, to show us that we may be like Him. . . . **We ought to be holy**
148 **even as God is holy;** and when we comprehend the full significance of this
149 statement, and set our heart to do the work of God, to be holy as He is holy,
150 we shall approach the standard set for each individual in Christ Jesus. {FLB
151 140.5}

152
153 God's promise is, "Ye shall be holy; for I am holy." **Holiness is the reflection**
154 **of God's glory. But in order to reflect this glory, we must cooperate with**
155 **God. Heart and mind must be emptied of all that leads to wrong. The**
156 **Word of God must be read and studied with a sincere desire to gain from**
157 **it spiritual strength.** This Word is the Bread of heaven. **Those who receive**
158 **it, and make it a part of their lives, grow strong in the strength of God.**
159 **Our sanctification is God's object in all His dealing with us. He has**
160 **chosen us from eternity, that we may be holy.** Christ declares, "This is the
161 will of God, even your sanctification." Is it your will, also, that your desires
162 and inclinations shall be brought into conformity to the divine will? . . . {OFC
163 285.6}

164
165 **On the cross of Christ the Saviour made an atonement for the fallen race.**
166 **Holiness is the fruit of this sacrifice. It is because He has died for us that**
167 **we are promised this great gift. And Christ longs to bestow this gift on us.**
168 **He longs to make us partakers of His nature.** He longs to save those who
169 by sin have separated themselves from God. He calls upon them to choose His
170 service, to give themselves wholly into His control, to learn from Him how to
171 do God's will. {ST, December 17, 1902 par. 4}

172
173 **Holiness is wholeness to God. The soul is surrendered to God. The will,**
174 **and even the thoughts, are brought into subjection to the will of Christ.**
175 **The love of Jesus fills the soul,** and is constantly going out in a clear,
176 refreshing stream, to make glad the hearts of others (MS 33, 1911). {6BC
177 1076.2}

178
179 Satan's path is the broadest and the most deceptive. It is made to appear the
180 most attractive, while it is hard, mystifying, and full of disappointment. The
181 **path of holiness is narrow, full of self-denial and continual sacrifice; and**
182 **yet in this laborious, up-hill path is happiness, comfort, and hope.** In the
183 midst of conflicts, rebuffs, and trials, the most elevated consolation is enjoyed
184 by those who walk in the path of obedience. {RH, April 15, 1880 par. 5}

185
186 **The lovers of the truth of God should be the happiest people in the earth,**
187 **because "he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."**
188 **Holiness is happiness, because holiness is a part of Heaven.** {ST, June 29,

189 1888 par. 1}

190

191 **"Many are unhappy because they are unholy.** Purity of heart, innocence of
192 mind only can be blessed of God. **When sin is cherished, it can in the end**
193 **produce nothing but unhappiness;** and the sin which leads to the most
194 unhappy results is pride of heart, the lack of Christ-like sympathy and love."
195 {PH130 23.2}

196

197 **"Purity and holiness of action in every movement are as much required as**
198 **is knowledge."** {SpTB05 38.2}

199

200 **God requires of his blood-bought heritage the sanctification of the whole**
201 **being,—purity like the purity of Christ, perfect conformity to the will of**
202 **God.** {RH, November 12, 1914 par. 3}

203

204 By faith Enoch "was translated that he should not see death, ... for before his
205 translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God." Hebrews 11:5. The
206 **godly character of this prophet represents the state of holiness which**
207 **must be attained by those who shall be "redeemed from the earth"**
208 (Revelation 14:3) at Christ's second advent. Then, as before the Flood,
209 iniquity will prevail. Men will rebel against the authority of Heaven. But **like**
210 **Enoch, God's people will seek for purity of heart and conformity to His**
211 **will, until they shall reflect the likeness of Christ.** {EP 49.4}

212

213 **No one who claims holiness is really holy. Those who are registered as**
214 **holy in the books of Heaven are not aware of the fact, and are the last**
215 **ones to boast of their own goodness.** None of the prophets and apostles ever
216 professed holiness, not even Daniel, Paul, or John. The righteous never make
217 such a claim. The **more nearly they resemble Christ, the more they lament**
218 **their unlikeness to him; for their consciences are sensitive, and they**
219 **regard sin more as God regards it.** They have exalted views of God and of
220 the great plan of salvation; and their hearts, humbled under a sense of their
221 own unworthiness, are alive to the honor of being accounted members of the
222 royal family, sons and daughters of the King Eternal. {ST, February 26, 1885
223 par. 10}

224

225 **Many have taken the position that they cannot sin because they are**
226 **sanctified, but this is a delusive snare of the evil one. There is constant**
227 **danger of falling into sin,** for Christ has warned us to watch and pray lest we
228 enter into temptation. If we are conscious of the weakness of self, we shall not
229 be self-confident and reckless of danger, but we shall feel the necessity of
230 seeking to the Source of our strength, Jesus our Righteousness. We shall come
231 in repentance and contrition, with a despairing sense of our own finite
232 weakness, and learn that we must daily apply to the merits of the blood of
233 Christ, that we may become vessels fit for the Master's use. {FW 85.3}

234

235 Perfection, **holiness, nothing short of this, would give them success in**
236 **carrying out the principles He had given them. Without this holiness the**
237 **human heart is selfish, sinful, and vicious. Holiness will lead its possessor**

238 **to be fruitful and abound in all good works.** He will never become weary in
239 well-doing, neither will he look for promotion in this world. He will look
240 forward for promotion to the time when the Majesty of heaven shall exalt the
241 sanctified ones to His throne. {2T 445.1}

242

243 **Ample provisions have been made for all who sincerely, earnestly, and**
244 **thoughtfully set about the work of perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**
245 Strength, grace, and glory have been provided through Christ, to be brought
246 by ministering angels to the heirs of salvation. **None are so low, so corrupt**
247 **and vile, that they cannot find in Jesus, who died for them, strength,**
248 **purity, and righteousness, if they will put away their sins, cease their**
249 **course of iniquity, and turn with full purpose of heart to the living God.**
250 **He is waiting to strip them of their garments, stained and polluted by sin,**
251 **and to put upon them the white, bright robes of righteousness; and He**
252 **bids them live and not die.** In Him they may flourish. Their branches will not
253 wither nor be fruitless. **If they abide in Him, they can draw sap and**
254 **nourishment from Him, be imbued with His Spirit, walk even as He**
255 **walked, overcome as He overcame,** and be exalted to His own right hand. –
256 {2T 453.2}

257

258 Bro. W. is weak in many things. **If God required him to expose and**
259 **condemn a neighbor, to reprove and correct a brother, and resist and**
260 **destroy his enemies, this would be to him a comparatively natural and**
261 **easy work. But a warfare against self, subduing the desires and the**
262 **affections of his own heart, searching out and controlling the secret**
263 **motives of the heart, is a more difficult warfare.** How unwilling to be
264 faithful in such a contest as this. The warfare against self is the greatest battle
265 that was ever fought. **The yielding of self, surrendering all to the will of**
266 **God, and being clothed with humility, possessing that love that is pure,**
267 **peaceable, and easy to be entreated, full of gentleness and good fruits, is**
268 **not an easy attainment. And yet it is his privilege and his duty to be a**
269 **perfect overcomer here.** The soul must submit to God before it can be
270 renewed in knowledge and true holiness. **The holy life and character of**
271 **Christ is a faithful example. His confidence in his Heavenly Father was**
272 **unlimited. His obedience and submission were unreserved and perfect.** He
273 came not to be ministered unto, but to minister to others. He came not to do
274 his own will, but the will of Him that sent him. In all things he submitted
275 himself to Him that judgeth righteously....” { PH159 132.1 } He became
276 poor, and made himself of no reputation. **He was hungry, and frequently**
277 **thirsty, and many times weary** in his labors, and he had not where to lay his
278 head. When the damp, cold shades of night gathered about him, **frequently**
279 **the earth was his bed. He blessed those who hated him.** What a life! what
280 an experience! **Can we, the professed followers of Christ, cheerfully**
281 **endure privation and suffering, as did our Lord, without murmuring?**
282 Can we drink of the cup, and be baptized with the baptism? If so, we may
283 share with him in his glory, in his heavenly kingdom. **If not, we shall have no**
284 **part with him.** { PH159 133.1 }

285

286 **As the sinner, drawn by the love of Christ, approaches the cross, and**

287 **prostrates himself before it, there is a new creation. A new heart is given**
288 **him. He becomes a new creature in Christ Jesus.** Holiness finds that it has
289 nothing more to require. God Himself is "the justifier of him which believeth
290 in Jesus." And "whom He justified, them He also glorified." Great as is the
291 shame and degradation through sin, even greater will be the honor and
292 exaltation through redeeming love. **To human beings striving for**
293 **conformity to the divine image, there is imparted an outlay of heavenly**
294 **treasures, an excellency of power, that will place them higher than even**
295 **the angels who have never sinned.** {ST, June 4, 1902 par. 5}

296
297 **Conversion is a work that most do not appreciate. It is not a small matter**
298 **to transform an earthly, sin-loving mind** and bring it to understand the
299 unspeakable love of Christ, the charms of His grace, and the excellency of
300 God, so that the soul shall be imbued with divine love and captivated with the
301 heavenly mysteries. **When he understands these things, his former life**
302 **appears disgusting and hateful. He hates sin, and, breaking his heart**
303 **before God, he embraces Christ as the life and joy of the soul. He**
304 **renounces his former pleasures.** He has a new mind, new affections, new
305 interest, new will; his sorrows, and desires, and love are all new. The lust
306 of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life, which have heretofore
307 been preferred before Christ, are now turned from, and Christ is the
308 charm of his life, the crown of his rejoicing. Heaven, which once possessed
309 no charms, is now viewed in its riches and glory; and he contemplates it as his
310 future home, where he shall see, love, and praise the One who hath redeemed
311 him by His precious blood. – {2T 294.2} **The works of holiness, which**
312 **appeared wearisome, are now his delight. The word of God, which was**
313 **dull and uninteresting, is now chosen as his study, the man of his counsel.**
314 **It is as a letter written to him from God,** bearing the inscription of the
315 Eternal. His thoughts, his words, and his deeds are brought to this rule and
316 tested. **He trembles at the commands and threatenings which it contains,**
317 **while he firmly grasps its promises and strengthens his soul by**
318 **appropriating them to himself. The society of the most godly is now**
319 **chosen by him, and the wicked, whose company he once loved, he no**
320 **longer delights in.** He weeps over those sins in them at which he once
321 laughed. **Self-love and vanity are renounced, and he lives unto God,** and is
322 rich in good works. **This is the sanctification which God requires.** Nothing
323 short of this will He accept. – {2T 294.3}

324
325 **Sanctification--how many understand its full meaning?** The mind is
326 befogged by sensual malaria. The thoughts need purifying. What might not
327 men and women have been had they realized that the treatment of the body
328 has everything to do with the vigor and purity of the mind and heart. The **true**
329 **Christian obtains an experience which brings holiness. He is without a**
330 **spot of guilt upon the conscience, or a taint of corruption upon the soul.**
331 The spirituality of the law of God, with its limiting principles, is brought into
332 his life. The light of truth irradiates his understanding. A glow of perfect love
333 for the Redeemer clears away the miasma which has interposed between his
334 soul and God. **The will of God has become his will, pure, elevated, refined,**
335 **and sanctified.** His countenance reveals the light of heaven. **His body is a fit**

336 **temple for the Holy Spirit. Holiness adorns his character. God can**
337 **commune with him, for soul and body are in harmony with God.**--Letter
338 139, 1898, p. 13. (To A. T. Jones, Dec. 16, 1898.) {2MR 27.2}

339

340 **Unless you seek to serve Him with your undivided affections, you will fail**
341 **to perfect holiness** in His fear, and you will be compelled to hear at last the
342 fearful word, Depart. – {2T 237.1}

343

344 **All blessings come to us by virtue of our union with Christ.** He, the Lord of
345 hosts, "hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, **that we**
346 **should be holy, and without blame before Him in love.**" He has chosen all
347 who will receive and believe and practice the truth,--**chosen them to be**
348 **united to Him by adoption, to be members of the royal family.** He has
349 made an atonement for sin, and all who by faith receives Him as their Saviour
350 become sons of God. {BCL 56.2} **Christ knows the weakness and the**
351 **failings of the human heart. Of ourselves, we can never make ourselves fit**
352 **to be co-workers with Him. It is God's purpose that each soul shall realize**
353 **his inefficiency, and hunger and thirst after righteousness. Through the**
354 **cleansing power of the Holy Spirit, we can be made vessels meet for the**
355 **Master's use.** {BCL 56.3} **Jesus saves only those who repent of their sins.**
356 By the efficacy of His blood, they are cleansed from all defilements. In all
357 wisdom and prudence He works in the one who in faith surrenders to Him.
358 "Let him take hold of My strength," He says, "that he may make peace with
359 Me, and he shall make peace with Me." **All those who die to self He will**
360 **make vessels unto honor. He will bestow on them wisdom and**
361 **understanding in spiritual things, giving them a rich measure of His**
362 **grace.** {BCL 56.4}

363

364 Transformation of character is wrought **through the operation of the Holy**
365 **Spirit**, which works upon the human agent, **implanting in him, according to**
366 **his desire and consent to have it done, a new nature.** The **image of God is**
367 **restored to the soul, and day by day he is strengthened and renewed by**
368 **grace**, and is enabled more and more perfectly to reflect the character of
369 Christ in righteousness and true holiness. {RH, September 17, 1895 par. 7}

370

371 **"Perfection through our own good works we can never attain.** The soul
372 who sees Jesus by faith, repudiates his own righteousness. **He sees himself as**
373 **incomplete, his repentance insufficient, his strongest faith but feebleness,**
374 **his most costly sacrifice as meager, and he sinks in humility at the foot of**
375 **the cross. But a voice speaks to him from the oracles of God's Word. In**
376 **amazement he hears the message, "Ye are complete in Him." Now all is**
377 **at rest in his soul.** No longer must he strive to find some worthiness in
378 himself, some meritorious deed by which to gain the favor of God. {FW
379 107.4}

380

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