

Our Garment of Holiness and Righteousness

We have talked about the wedding garments over the past weeks. So what are they?

- **Rev 19:7-9** Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." (8) **And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.** (9) Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!' " And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

1Pe 1:10-25 Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, (11) searching what, or what manner of to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven— things which angels desire to look into. **(13) Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; (14) as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; (15) but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, (16) because it is written, "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."** (17) And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; (18) knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, (19) but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. (20) He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you (21) who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. (22) Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, (23) having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, (24) because "ALL FLESH IS AS GRASS, AND ALL THE GLORY OF MAN AS THE FLOWER OF THE GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS, AND ITS FLOWER FALLS AWAY, (25) BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

Living how the Lord wants you to live, led by His Spirit, this is called to live Holy.

- We are referred to as Saints – The Greek word used in the bible and translated to saint is **hagios** when referring to a person or people
 - When referring to an **action** it is translated as **holy**
 - When referring to a person - saint

- Holiness is the ACTIVE EVINENCE of our faith and trust in God and living with HIM driving, not you or you may know it by another way it is stated:
 - **Jas 2:17-20** Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. (18) But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. (19) You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! (20) But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?
 - Story of riding the tandem bike
 - Examples of Him driving (Holy) or you driving – Tandem Bike
 - We want Him behind pedaling and us steering and telling Him to you need help pedaling. Jesus want to steer and encourages us to keep pedaling even though it may be hard.
 - **Mat 25:37-46** "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? (38) When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? (39) Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' (40) And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' (41) "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: (42) for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; (43) I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' (44) "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' (45) Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' (46) And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."
- YOU CANNOT STUDY THE BIBLE diligently and earnestly without being struck by an obvious fact, the whole matter of personal holiness is highly important to God!
 - Neither do you have to give long study to the attitudes of modern Christian believers to discern that by and large we consider the expression of true Christian holiness to be just a matter of personal option: ☒
 - I have looked it over and considered it, but I don't buy it!

- Peter's argument is simple and straight forward as he extorts you and I in this letter to be holy because:
 - It is God's character – He is always right and does the right thing
 - It is God's command - **1Jn 5:2-3** **By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. (3) For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.**
- There is teaching out there today that places living a holy life as optional.
 - Don't sweat it, you've accepted Christ and your fine...
 - I am of the opinion that we cannot simply minimize or even ignore what the apostles taught and wrote that we read today about being Holy
 - Paul, Peter, James, John
 - Has God changed His mind over what He led the writers to write when led by His Spirit? I don't think so!
- Whenever Satan has reason to fear a truth he produces a counterfeit.
 - He will try to put that truth in such a bad light that the very persons who are most eager to obey it are frightened away from it.
 - Works – Legalism-Fear of God...
 - **Relativism** conveys that there are no absolutes. This perspective legitimizes innumerable truths contradicting one another.
 - **Relativism** leads to tolerance.
 - **Liberty**, otherwise known as **antinomianism** (against law), says that God's law is entirely abolished by grace. Humanity is no longer expected to cherish and keep God's law. This makes way for license to abuse grace. Our enemy would like to see grace abused. Where relativism dilutes holiness, liberty dirties holiness.
- **Story of the Bridge: At Harper's Ferry** on one occasion the flood in the Potomac was so great that it threatened the destruction of the costly railroad bridge, which was seen to shake in its unsteadiness. When everybody present was looking each moment to see the bridge go down, President John W. Garrett, of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, arrived upon the scene. Appreciating the necessity of instant action, he gave an abrupt order for a loaded train of freight cars standing on a side track to be run with the locomotive on to the bridge and kept there. "But, Mr. Garrett, that is a train-load of silk," said the local superintendent. "I don't care; run out the cars!" commanded the great master of railroads.

"It would be easier to pay for the silks than to build a new bridge." The silk-train was run on to the bridge and the structure was saved. The difference between the success of one man and the disaster which comes to another often lies just at that point. The one is vacillating and uncertain, and the other bold to dare whatever is necessary in order to win. A certain holy boldness and audacity of faith is necessary to great triumph in spiritual matters.

- Living for the Lord is an all or nothing proposition
 - Are you will in to give up your life and live with Him, In Him, and directed by Him and gain eternal life?
- To many people try to live in the middle – 1 foot in the world and one in His Kingdom
 - Driving on the left side/right side, but not down the middle
- Holiness describes the life you live when you risk it all and trust in the Gospel, Trust in the Word -
 - Belief to Faith to trust in the leading of His Spirit – to doing the works and living the life that allows His Spirit to direct our actions that conform to His Will = Holiness
 - The word means in both Hebrew and Greek
 - Separation/Sacredness/Godliness/Purity
 - Root – awe/mysterious
- It comes from being born again and giving you life to Christ.
 - Knowing His Word and Trusting it
 - His Spirit writing on your heart
 - Your will and flesh submitting and doing the works
 - We are referred to as Saints – a holy person
- He wants us to trust in HIM to the point we separate ourselves from the allegiance to this world and live as part of HIS kingdom here on earth
 - Not alone, but with Him with us guiding
 - His Word
 - His Spirit
 - It is how you allow God to lead your life – once you have given your life over to HIM and been born again you still have you own self will to make decisions
 - Early on it is clunky – as a child attempting new things – needs to think and take direction
 - As they get older – more comes just naturally
 - Same with the Lord's Spirit – before long living the way and doing the works He leads you to do just becomes natural – Holy – the Light

- To Live Holy
 - To allow the Spirit of Christ to guide our lives so it aligns up morally and ethically with the morals and ethics of God
 - To allow His Spirit to see others as He sees them
 - Loves them
 - Cares for them
 - Has Mercy
 - Has Patience
- Closing
 - **Story of Trees and big wind – then the one that did not fall down – rooted!**
 - Not just supported by the crowd
 - Take Root
 - Bury your life deep into God
 - You will get all you need to do HIS will, live HOLY, buried in HIM and Holy Spirit flowing into you
 - Produce Fruit
 - Weather storms