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Holy, Wholly Living in the End-Time



By Steven J. Hogan

~ A Saturday Morning Post #256 ~

God is holy, holy, holy!!! God is the Holy One – He is sinless, blameless, and perfectly pure! And praise be to God that through the work of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, He has made us forever holy, righteous, and pure. And now that we are holy ones, we are to live holy lives. This theme of being holy is a most important message in the Bible and should be our constant and continual endeavor. Hundreds of verses instruct us to live holy lives, and wouldn't you know it, many are in the context of Christ's coming. And since we now live in the end-times, we must understand them, and see how they relate to our life, our purpose, and Christ's return. Let's look at some of them.

Revelation 4:8 – *“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come.”* The book of Revelation is about the end-times, Christ’s coming, and the ages to come. And Rev. 4 is foundational, for it focuses on worshiping the holy God, setting the stage for Christ’s return, the coming of the Holy One. Revelation teaches us that God wants a holy church to welcome His Son, and a holy earth upon which He will reign. *“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory.”* Isaiah 6:3, Acts 3:20-21

Romans 13:11-14 – *“Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for salvation is nearer to us than when we first believed. The night is almost gone and the day is near. Therefore, let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light… put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh.”* This age is coming to an end, the day of Christ is near, the time for the church to be raptured and for all believers to be glorified is at hand! And God wants you to be awake, alert, holy, and full of hope. The nearness of Christ’s return should greatly motivate you to be inwardly and outwardly holy. *“Who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.”* Psalm 24:3-4

Ephesians 4:30 – *“Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”* When you get saved, you are given the Holy Spirit, and one of His purposes is to protect you, to keep you safe until the day of Christ, the day of redemption, the day you are glorified. *“… Having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit… with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession”* (Eph. 1:13). Another purpose of the Spirit is to make you holy – so do not grieve Him, *“do not quench the Holy Spirit”* (1 Thess. 5:19) – live a holy life. Eph. 4-6 explains what this looks like.

Philippians 1:10 – *“I pray that your love may abound more and more*

in real knowledge and all discernment so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ." How should you pray? That you grow in your love for God and others, which results from knowing God's truth, making wise decisions, and living a holy and blameless life – and all this is in view of the day of Christ, for at that time *"each man's work will become evident, for the day will show it because it is to be revealed…"* 1 Corinthians 3:13

Colossians 3:4-10 – *"When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. Therefore, consider the members of your body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry… put on the new self."* When Christ returns, He will immediately be revealed – and then you will be revealed with Him in His kingdom. In view of Christ's holy and glorious coming, say no to the old self, and *"put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth."* Ephesians 4:24

1 Thessalonians 4:3-8, 16-17 – "*This is the will of God, your sanctification… the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air."* The coming of Christ is a major theme of 1 Thessalonians, and it too highlights the need for holiness. We are *"sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness"* (1 Thess. 5:5). Therefore, fervently desire to be *"holy and blameless"* (Eph. 5:27), especially since you will soon be seeing your Savior. Revelation 22:12

1 Thessalonians 5:23 – *"May the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete,*

without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 1:8 says the same thing – *"He will keep you strong to the end so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ."* You must recognize God's role in making and keeping you holy. Yes, you are to do your part when it comes to being sanctified, to being holy, but ultimately it is God who enables you to live a righteous life. And again we see that living a holy life is connected to Christ's coming.

Titus 2:11-13 – *"The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope, and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds."* How are you to live? You are to live a righteous and godly life by saying no to sin and by doing good deeds – and you are to be looking for Christ's return and the revealing of His kingdom and glory which happen after the end of this present age. Matthew 24:3-31

1 Peter 1:13-16 – *"Prepare your minds for action, keep sober in Spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ… like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves in all your behavior, because it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'"* It cannot be any clearer, for again you are exhorted to be holy in the context of Christ's coming, and you are to be obedient, and to have hope, to be excitedly looking forward to His return.

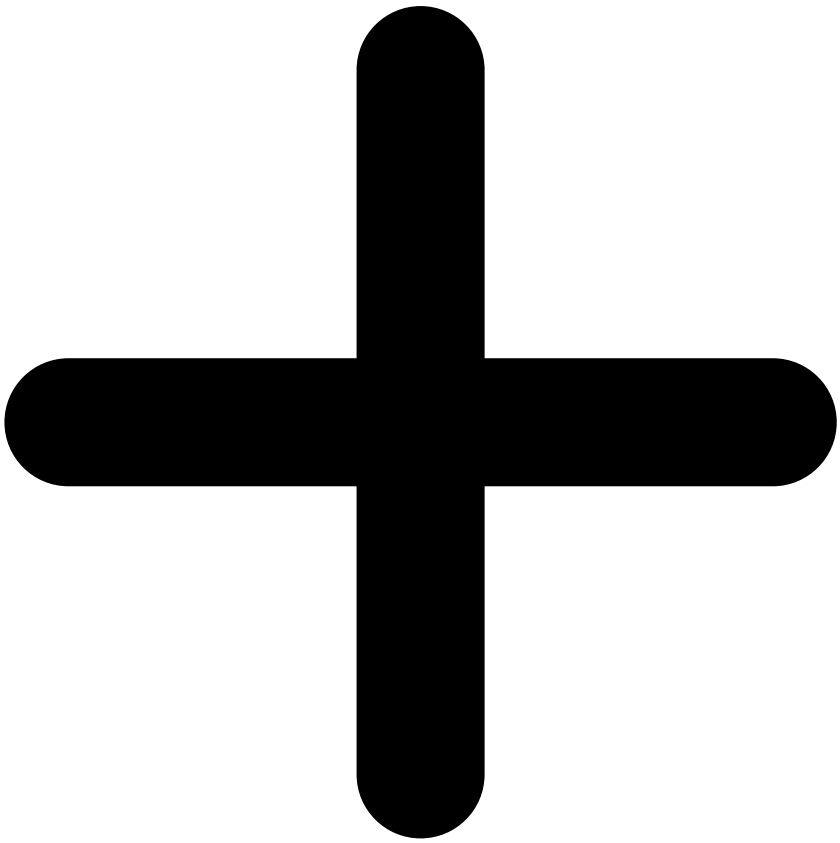
2 Peter 3:11 – *"Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God?"* Why love this sinful world? Since this evil earth will soon be destroyed, why live like a

sinner? Rev. 18:2-4, speaking of this wicked world, *“a dwelling place of demons”*, tells you, *“Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins.”* Knowing that Jesus is coming to rapture the saints and punish the sinners should greatly motivate you to live a holy life, and to share the gospel with the lost, thereby, hastening His coming.

1 John 3:3 – *“When Jesus appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. Everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”* Jesus is glorious and perfectly pure, and when He appears, we will be like Him, perfectly pure, and altogether glorious. And having hope, wanting to see Jesus, has a positive, purifying, and powerful effect on your life.

Here are some key truths about holiness and how it helps you to live a holy, God-glorifying life.
* The best blessing of being holy is having a close relationship with God. Matt. 5:8, Heb. 12:14
* God is pleased, honored, and glorified when you are holy. Eph. 5:6-11
* To be useful to God, to be able to do His work, you must be holy. 2 Tim. 2:21
* If you are in sin, then repent and confess your sin. 1 John 1:5-9; Rev. 2:5, 2:12, 2:18, 3:1, 3:14
* God wants to bless you, but you need to be holy, obedient, and seeking Him. Psalm 119:1-8
* Learn from the epistles, for they will greatly help you to grow in holiness. Ephesians 4:17-24
* Share the gospel by living a holy life and by speaking the truth about sin and Jesus. Titus 3:1-8
* Living a holy life will result in being eternally rewarded. 1 Corinthians 3:12-15
* God will keep you holy all the way to heaven, and enable you to *“stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty,*

dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever.” Jude 24-25





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