

**1 Peter 5:** <sup>10</sup> After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

Jesus' resurrection empowers believers for holy living. The root meaning of the word translated *holy* is "different." A holy person's life has a quality about it that is different. However, it is not easy to live in this world and maintain a holy walk. The anti-God atmosphere around us that the Bible calls "the world" is always pressing against us, trying to force us to conform.

### **Seven spiritual imperatives that encourage us to maintain a holy walk in an anti-God world from 1 Peter 1:**

**1. The rapture of Christ Jesus** <sup>13</sup> Therefore, prepare your minds for action [1], keep sober in spirit [2], fix your hope completely [3] on the grace [4] to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ [5].

[1] Have a disciplined mind; Outlook determines outcome, Attitude determines action; [2] be calm, steady, controlled; weigh matters carefully [3] have an optimistic mind; when the outlook is gloomy, try the uplook; it has to be dark for the stars to appear. [4] the result of this spiritual mindset is that a believer experiences the grace of God in his life. [5] another expression for the appearing of Jesus Christ.

**2. The Holiness of God** <sup>14</sup> As obedient children [1], do not be conformed to the former lusts [2]; which were yours in your ignorance [3], <sup>15</sup> but like [4] the Holy One who called you [5], be holy yourselves also in all your behavior [6];

[1] before salvation they had been children of disobedience [2] they had been imitators of the world, [3] all because of their ignorance which leads to indulgence; [4] we are to be holy just as God is holy [5] God called us to be holy just as He called the Apostles; [6] everything we do is to reflect the holiness and glory of God.

**3. The Word of God** <sup>16</sup> because it is written [1], "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

[1] The first & continuous step to keeping clean in an evil world is to ask "what does the Bible say"? We study the Bible so that we can get to know God better.

**Am I intentional in the pursuit of personal holiness? It's not that I grudgingly avoid outward sins; rather, I seek God's power and presence so that I delight in Him, and I long for holiness from the inside out.**

**4. The Judgment of God** <sup>17</sup> If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear [reverence and respect] during the time of your stay on earth;

**Hebrews 12:5** ...do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord...

In view of the fact that the Father lovingly disciplines His children today, and will judge their works in the future, I ought to cultivate an attitude of godly fear. Not the cringing fear of a slave before a master, but the loving reverence of a child before his father, It is not fear of judgment, but a fear of disappointing Him or sinning against His love. It is "godly fear", a sober reverence for the Father. (1 John 4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment...)

**5. The love of God-the sacrifice of His Son** <sup>18</sup> *knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers,<sup>19</sup> but with precious blood, as of a lamb [1] unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.<sup>20</sup> For He was foreknown [2] before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you<sup>21</sup> who through Him are believers in God [3], who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.* **Page 2**

[1] Christ an innocent victim gave His life for the guilty. [2] Christ's death was an appointment not an accident. [3] Jesus came as a baby, grew to be a man, died, arose, proved His resurrection for 40 days then ascended to heaven that I might be saved by grace through faith.

**As a result: Philippians 3:** <sup>20</sup> *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;*

**6. We are children in the same family** <sup>22</sup> *Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls [salvation & then growth in purity] for a sincere love of the brethren [Philadelphia-family love], fervently love one another from the heart [agapao-sacrificial-only available as the love of God flows through us],*

**The progression in v. 22 is this: In conversion, I was made pure, and I am growing in purity, so that I have a genuine affection for others in the Father's family. Now I should grow in sacrificial love for each other in a way that is deep and strong.**

**7. We have experienced an imperishable birth;** <sup>23</sup> *for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.<sup>24</sup> For, "ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS, AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS, AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF,<sup>25</sup> BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER." And this is the word which was preached to you.*

**Summary:** 1. Be holy because God is holy

2. Be holy because God loves me

3. Be at peace with God, Self & Others.

**Romans 5:**<sup>1</sup> Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Philippians 4:** <sup>6</sup> *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.<sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

**Romans 12:** <sup>18</sup> *If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men*

4. I live to please an audience of One and I hope He will someday say to me at the believers judgment in heaven: "Well done good and faithful servant" [1 Cor. 3:11-15]

5. Memorize: 1 Peter 1: <sup>16</sup> *because **it is written**, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."*

6. Prayerfully read the song "I gave My life for Thee" on page 3 & consider your answer to the underlined lines.

\*\* guidance from Warren Wiersbe's Commentary

"I gave my life for thee  
My precious blood I shed  
That thou might ransomed be  
And quickened from the dead.

I gave, I gave my life for thee  
What hast thou given for me?  
I gave, I gave my life for thee  
What hast thou given for me?

My father's house of light  
My glory circled throne  
I left for earthly night  
For wand'rings sad and lone.

I left, I left it all for thee,  
Hast thou left aught for me?  
I left, I left it all for thee,  
Hast thou left aught for me?

I suffered much for thee,  
More than thy tongue can tell  
Of bitterest agony  
To rescue thee from hell.

I've borne, I've borne it all for thee  
What hast thou borne for me?  
I've borne, I've borne it all for thee  
What hast thou borne for me?

And I have brought to thee  
Down from My home above  
Salvation full and free  
My pardon and my love.

I bring, I bring rich gifts to thee,  
What hast thou brought to me?  
I bring, I bring rich gifts to thee,  
What hast thou brought to me?"

"I gave my life for thee" By Francis Ridley Havergal