

A.M. — *Perfecting Holiness*

“Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” (2 Cor. 7.1)

I. God’s _____ . (Jn 17.17)

A. God’s has not required that for which He has not provided the instructions. (cf. Lev)

B. Garbage in, garbage out; Right in, right out. (Rom 10.17; 12.1-2; Eph 4.23)

C. It is God’s word by which we grow. (Acts 20.32)

II. God’s _____ . (1Cor 15.33)

A. People influence people, for better or for worse.

B. It is possible to be influenced away from holiness, but it is also possible to be influenced toward it. (Pr 27.17; Heb 10.23-25)

III. Self-_____. (2Cor 7.1)

A. A process, of which Paul is our example to follow — focus, perseverance, discipline. (1Cor 9.24-27)

B. Israel illustrates failure in these ways. (10.1-13)

IV. Conclusion. (1Th 4.3; 1Pet 1.14-16)

A. As with any worthy pursuit, “perfecting holiness” will not happen by accident...

B. But only when we diligently pursue those means which God has prescribed.