

How May I Be Holy?

How May I Be Holy

How – what do I need to do?

May – is it even possible to be holy?

I – can a sinner be holy?

Be – doing a holy thing now and then does not mean I'm holy, does it?

Holy – set apart, consecrated for God's service

Romans 6 answers

I. Understand Conditions Of Salvation, 1-11

1: be honest

- Some pervert Paul's teaching
- 6:1 (5:20) abound:
 - “Our job is to **sin**; God's is to **forgive**”
 - If grace abounds, sin more to receive more grace?

2: No! No! No!

- They had been dead *in* sin; now dead *to* sin.
- *Salvation by grace means one less sinner in the world.*
- How can we live in sin if we died to it?

3: united with Christ

- Baptized into Christ = union with Him; change of relationship.
 - 1 Co.10:2, Moses replaced Pharaoh.
 - Salvation meant new . . .
 - Leader
 - Laws
 - Life

Baptism is our exodus from bondage of sin – whole new way of life

3: united with the death of Christ

- Jesus called his death **baptism** (Mk.10:38).
- Baptism into His **death** ends one life, starts another.

Christ died; the hour when it had its saving effect on me is baptism (3-4)

In NT, “baptism means water baptism unless in the context it is stated to the contrary” – John Stott

4: therefore buried and raised

- Buried old man, old life.
- Raised new man, new life.
 - Some try to identify with His death but ignore His resurrection.
 - Did Jesus die without being raised?
 - If we are dead to sin, we must act like it.
 - Walk in newness of life. Jn.11.

Life is in Christ; baptism is the door

5: in union with Christ...

- There can be no death without resurrection.

Emerging from the water of baptism
is like a resurrection

6: crucified

- Body of sin = once enslaved by sin.

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me – Gal.2:20

But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world – Gal.6:14

6: crucified

“There is a great difference between realizing,
‘On that Cross **He was crucified for me,**’ and
‘On that Cross **I am crucified with Him.**’

The one aspect brings us deliverance from
sin’s **condemnation,** the other from sin’s

power” – Mantle

7: freed

- V.6: *crucified* puts end to bondage.
- Sin has no claim on justified person, just as law has none on one who dies.

Freedom from law is not lawlessness,
but obedience to righteousness

- “The land of the free” ? ?

8-11: if we died with Christ, we live with Him

- 9-10: Christ who knew no sin died for our sins.
 - After His death, His relations with sin and death ceased. So, we live to God.
- 11: Christian is through with sin and death.
 - 1 Jn.1:8-10
 - We are delivered from dominion of sin (slavery) – dead to sin, alive to God.

I. Understand Conditions Of Salvation, 1-11

II. Understand Commitment Of
Sanctification, 12-14, 21, 23

12: dethrone it

- Godly living is a necessity, not an option.
- Sin is a dictator that uses our bodily members to rule over us.

13: choose carefully

- Sin is personified.
- Both sin and God look for instruments to use.
 - Present members as instruments to sin –
 - Addictive.
 - Grows.
 - Present members as instruments of righteousness to God.
 - Leads to righteousness (16), holiness (19), life (22).

14: slavery

- Sin (personified) becomes our master.
- This is our declaration of independence...
 - Sin...not dominion over you: only one Lord.
 - Not under law, but grace.
 - Not absolute: 8:2; Ja.1:25 . . .
 - To be saved by law: keep it perfectly, Gal.3:10

20-21: shame

- Before becoming a Christian, we were under power of sin and produced its fruit.

Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; Nor did they know how to blush... – Jer.6:15

23: death

- Sin brings its own punishment.
 - Hot stove
 - Immorality

I. Understand Conditions Of Salvation, 1-11

II. Understand Commitment Of Sanctification, 12-14

III. Understand Call
Of Service, 15-18

15: take sin seriously

- “I know that it’s wrong to live in sin, but isn’t a little sin acceptable?”

16: be what you are

- *Obey obedience*
- Slaves were completely bound to master’s wishes. Mt.6:24.
- The grace that does not change my life will not save my soul.

Choices matter

- Choose Marx – become Communist
- Choose Mohammed – Muslim
- Choose Timothy O’Leary – Hippie
- Choose Jim Jones – suicide
- Choose Christ – ? ? ?

Once a caterpillar becomes a butterfly,
the butterfly has no business crawling
around like a caterpillar

17-18: voluntary slavery

- Slaves to God (18, 22)
 - Free from sin, slaves of righteousness” (18)
 - Liberty is not license.
 - Ac.7:6, slavery in Egypt.
 - 1 Co.7:15, marital slavery.
 - 2 Pt.2:19, slavery to corruption (12).
 - Ro.6:18, 22: righteousness / holiness.