

Passage = "hinge" point - First 12 vs = incredible inheritance and salvation believers have
Peter shifts from **theology** (what God has done) to **exhortation** (how we should live)

Today...pursuit of holiness – Friend in Chicago...pursuing being an actor...bar tender (energy)

Holiness, from a Scriptural perspective, is something that is 'Done' and 'You're Doing'

- **Positional Holiness** – Your standing before God as a believer transformed by Christ

It is instantaneous, unchanging, and perfect

- **Practical Holiness** - Day-to-day process of actually becoming more like Christ in your actions, thoughts, and words – It is Progressive, everchanging – and imperfect

Think of it like royalty – Positionally you may be a King or Queen – Practically Good or Bad

Big Idea - We are Saved by Grace and Driven by Righteousness

Identify a problem in Christianity – Once Saved...always saved = We preach it...we mean it

- Here's what it doesn't mean...Once Saved...always saved...always do what you want
The upward call of Christ is to move from degree of separation from the world to the next
AW Tozer – 'True faith and obedience are so integrated that they are exactly the same thing'

Our obedience to God is caused by the grace given to us by God | Cannot get it backwards

As we read text...let the Word of God start stirring in your heart & mind the call to holiness

¹³Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹⁴As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, ¹⁵but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

1 Peter 1:13–16 marks a decisive turn– Lifting our eyes to the greatness of salvation

- New birth - Living hope – Inheritance - Refining purpose trials - Glory to come – Angels
It is as though Peter says, "In light of all this grace... now roll up your sleeves."
- Christianity is never merely about information; it's about transformation | Believe & Do

Text gives us a few things that the Christian life means...I'm going to highlight three of them

1. **The Christian Life Means: Grace that leads to action (13)**

¹³Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Every meaningful achievement in life requires preparation

Soldier...battle | Athlete...competition | Student...exam | Preparation precedes performance

- People assume Christianity runs autopilot | Faith just "believing" while life unfolds passively
KJV – Gird up the loins of your mind – First century clothing...pull up – between – tuck
Applies to mind: Tuck in loose ends of your thinking - Remove what hinders spiritual movement

The battle for holiness begins in the mind

- Undisciplined thoughts = undisciplined lives | Truth-driven minds = God-honoring living
What fills your mind shapes your behavior

Being Sober Minded – Not about alcohol. It describes clarity, self-control, and alertness

- Sober mind: Not intoxicated by worldly thinking | Not dulled by sin or distraction
Not controlled by emotions or impulses | Awake to spiritual realities | Driving in Fog
Don't Text – Don't Daydream – Radio Down – Because clarity matters when danger is near
Conformity to the Culture – Pride & Self-reliance – Complacency – False Teaching – Isolation

If our head is not on a swivel we will be bamboozled by the enemy and sin

set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ

- Points to Christ's return...Reminding suffering believers = Your best grace is still ahead
- Fully: Not Partially – Occasionally – Divided...fully | **Believers spread hope foundations**
Career – Health – Relationships – Comforts | True stability comes from a singular hope

Takeaway - Prepare your Mind

I used to play a lot of racquetball...Got pretty good...played a professionally ranked player

Unless you are preparing yourself...the enemy can score on you from anywhere

In the Word – On Your Face – Carrying the Load | Study – Pray – Serve

The Christian Life Means: Grace that leads to action

Kindness & Compassion & Hospitality & Evangelism & Forgiveness & Pursuing Holiness

Does your life represent your salvation?

2. **The Christian Life Means: Obedience that leads to change (14)**

¹⁴As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance,

We see a change in identify and a change in allegiance ...work through them in turn

i. **Change in Identity** – Children | Peter does not start with 'what to do' but 'Who you are'
Who are you? Child of God | Because you are a child of God must be obedient to the Father

a. **The Motivation: Love, Not Fear** - In many religions, obedience is a way to earn favor.

- Christianity, favor given through grace, so obedience becomes a **response to grace**
You don't obey to *become* a child; you obey because you *are* a child

b. **The Ambition: Imitation** – Children mimic their parents | Ever teach a kid a new word

- Christians are called to "imitate God" (Eph. 5:1) – We are to be a reflection of Father
 - **Reflecting Mercy:** Prioritizing forgiveness over retribution
 - **Seeking Justice:** Caring for the marginalized, as the Father is described as doing
 - **Practicing Holiness:** Setting oneself apart from "worldly" impulses

c. **The Cause: Trusting the Father** – Obedience is intellectual and emotional trust

- Father's "house rules" are designed for the child's ultimate well-being – Home by Dark
Moving from "I want my way" to "Thy will be done."

ii. **Change is Allegiance** - do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance

There was a time when your allegiance was to the world – This is how we form testimonies

- What my life was like before Christ I was conformed to the world – Jell-O sets to mold
 - Before you accepted Jesus offer of grace by faith you were molded to the sin of world
 - Your heart and your mind were being pressed from all sides by sinful / selfish desires
- Then you come to know Jesus and your allegiance changes – No longer the world...God
- He takes the form that you were once in and re-molds you into something spectacular

I want you to know just how beautiful this transformation is

⇒ Your allegiance used to be associated with sinful and destructive behaviors

⇒ Then there comes a day where you realize Jesus died for your sin & will make you new

Do you know what that means? Allegiance is no longer to your old self but the new in Christ

What was your old allegiance? Addiction? Self-centeredness? Anger? Insecurity? Lust?

All of that died on the cross so that you can live with a new allegiance to Christ

Has anyone noticed it doesn't die right away? It takes time for sin in our lives to die
do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance | Didn't know better...now do

- This means you have to fight it...daily...hourly if you have to – Fight to kill it...power HS
Imagine a child who spent a long time in an orphanage – Adopted by new parents

• Fighting for everything – Not being loved – Scared – Abandoned – Alone | Adjust

Sometimes the old self tries to sneak in and conform you to former passions...don't let it

Takeaway - Part with your Past

It's a process of moving from regret to repentance and eventually to renewal

Accept You're a New Creation | Practice Confession | Replace the narrative

3. The Christian Life Means: Calling that leads to righteousness (15-16)

¹⁵ but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,

¹⁶ since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

We live in a world obsessed w/ image but indifferent to character | [Too old for? Influencers](#)

- People are getting famous for being annoying...they have an image but no character
- People curate appearances, filter photos, and manage reputations...lack integrity

[Scripture calls us Not to outward polish, but inward renewal](#)

[Holiness: Is not perfection but separation](#) | You should be different than world around you

[God does not call His people to blend in, but to stand out — not by arrogance, but by purity](#)

[We see a Pattern — Practice — Command — and a Reason](#)

a. The Pattern of Righteousness — "As He who called you is holy"

- Righteousness begins w/ God, not us - God is not merely holy; He's the standard
 - His purity is absolute, His character flawless, His nature perfectly righteous
 - There is no darkness in Him, no compromise, no moral uncertainty
 - Peter reminds believers that their calling originates from this holy God

[Salvation is not just rescue judgment — entrance into a relationship with a holy Father](#)

[A lot of times we liken a pursuit of holiness to being legalistic](#)

[Christian legalism is the belief that right standing with God is earned or maintained through](#)

[strict adherence to laws, rules, and personal performances, rather than by grace alone](#)

[Righteousness is not legalism. It is likeness - We pursue holiness because we belong to God](#)

b. The Practice of Righteousness — "You also be holy in all your conduct"

- Righteousness is not confined to religious activity. Peter says "**all your conduct.**"
 - Public and private | Work and home | Speech and thoughts | Online and offline

[There are no "off-duty" moments for righteousness](#)

[Our commitment to Righteousness Affects](#)

- What we love – pursue – avoid - How we treat others | Righteousness is visible faith
[For the sake of righteousness there are things we don't do and places we don't go?](#)

[It isn't because we can't in our Christian freedom...it is that we don't for righteousness](#)

[There are times your Christian voice is louder because of what you abstain from than](#)

[what you participate in](#) | [Demonically influenced books – TV – Movies – Establishments](#)

c. The Command of Righteousness — "You shall be holy"

- This is not a suggestion or spiritual extra credit. It is a divine command.
- God does not say, "Try to be holy if it fits your personality." - He says, "Be holy."
You're going to make mistakes...that's why there is grace for mistakes
- God is the only one who is perfectly holy, but our aim should be to be like Him

[The same God who commands holiness also sent His Son to die for our sin](#)

[Pursuing righteousness isn't an option...it is built into the very fabric of the Christian life](#)

d. The Reason for Righteousness — "For I am holy"

- Here is the deepest motivation: God's own character.

[We don't pursue holiness to: impress others – earn salvation – feel superior – avoid consequences](#)

[We pursue holiness because we bear God's name](#)

[Someone gave you a priceless wedding dress – You would walk differently / Different places](#)

- [It's not that you're afraid of walking...it's you want to protect the valuable things given](#)

[Takeaway - Pursue God's Standard](#)

[Holiness shows our dependence | Holiness secures our assurance](#)

[Holiness assures our protection | Holiness establishes our witness](#)

[In what area of your life could you be pursuing holiness that you have lacked](#) | [BI](#)