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## HOLINESS.

SCOTT GOODWILL

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"The more outrageous others are in sin, the more courageous we should be for truth...to be holiest in evil times is an indication of the truth of grace... to own the ways of God when they are decried and maligned, to love a persecuted truth, this evidences a vital principle of goodness. Dead fish swim down the stream, living fish swim against it. To swim against the common stream of evil shows grace to be alive."

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In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

**GENESIS 1:1** 

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"Man alone is created in such a way that he can and that he ought to receive God's word and live in communion with him. What makes a man? Man's humanity consists not so much, or not in the first place, in the fact that he can think, that he can rise above the sense-world by conceptions and ideas, that by his spirit he can comprehend nature and dominate it."

EMIL BRUNNER

"All that is not in itself human, but it is instrumental, that is, what is truly human is man's being a creature of such a kind that God can talk to him, and that he can and must reply. More, that at all the time, in whatever he does or does not, thinks or does not think, wills or does not will, he answers God's call. God's call then is always the first thing, that which makes possible man's humanity, man's ability to answer.

EMIL BRUNNER

"Man is created in such a way that a definite answer is expected from him. The kernel of man's being is responsibility, and responsibility is the essence of humanity."

"A being does not regard himself as independent unless he is his own master, and he is only his own master when he owes his existence to himself. A man who lives by the favor of another considers himself a dependent being. But I live completely by another person's favor when I owe to him not only the continuance of my life but also its creation; when he is its source. My life has necessarily such a cause outside itself if it is not my own creation."

It is not primarily in our various desires that sin lies but in this one desire: to break down the limits of creatureliness and to take divine freedom as one's own. "The holiness of God is one of his transcendental attributes, and is sometimes spoken of as His central and supreme perfection. It does not seem proper to speak of one attribute of God as being more central and fundamental than another; but if this were permissible, the scriptural emphasis on the holiness of God would seem to justify its selection. It is... something that is co-extensive with, and applicable to, everything that can be predicated of God. He is holy in everything that reveals Him, in his goodness and grace as well as in His justice and wrath."



## IN SCRIPTURE, HIS HOLINESS DESCRIBES HIS RELATIONSHIP TO:

- 1.Us (and creation)
- 2. Moral perfection

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him



EPHESIANS 1:3-4

"We are fallen beings. We are fallen spiritually, morally, mentally and physically. We are fallen in all the ways men can fall being what they are. And we are all, each of us, born into a tainted world, and we learn impurity from our cradles. We nurse it in with our mothers milk. We breathe it in the very air. Our education deepens it and our experience confirms it... So fallen man being born in this kind of world, living here, breathing here, it gets into his pores. It gets into his lungs. It gets into his cells until he has lost the ability to conceive of the holy."

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the desire of the flesh is against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, in order to keep you from doing whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: sexual immorality, impurity, indecent behavior,

GALATIANS 5:16-19



idolatry, witchcraft, hostilities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

**GALATIANS 5:20-22** 



gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

**GALATIANS 5:23-24** 

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?

**ROMANS 6:1-2** 

But to the wicked God says "What right have you to tell of My statutes And to take My covenant in your mouth? "For you hate discipline, And you cast My words behind you. "When you see a thief, you are pleased with him, And you associate with adulterers.

PSALM 50:16-22

You let your mouth loose in evil And your tongue frames deceit. "You sit and speak against your brother; You slander your own mother's son. "These things you have done and I kept silence; You thought that I was just like you; I will reprove you and state the case in order before your eyes. "Now consider this, you who forget God, Or I will tear you in pieces, and there will be none to deliver.

PSALM 50:16-22



"Furthermore, because we have been chosen to holiness we must and will become holy. That is a startling statement; but it is of necessity true in the light of this statement of the Apostle. According to Paul we are not chosen with the possibility of holiness, but to the realization of holiness. God has not chosen us before the foundation of the world in order to create for us the possibility of holiness; He has chosen us to holiness. It is what He has purposed for us; not possibility, but realization.

I therefore make this solemn asseveration, that those who do not appreciate this truth and show some signs of holiness in their lives, are not chosen, are not Christian. Being chosen and being holy are inseparable...It is possible to be intellectually orthodox and yet not to be a Christian. The man who is chosen, is chosen to holiness; and if there is no evidence of holiness in his life, it is proof that he has never been [a Christian]."