

A Matter of Holiness
1 Peter 1:13-2:4
Al Gascon | May 11, 2025

- Suffering is not an excuse to sin; live out the holiness God has bestowed on you.

Quote of the week—*The Christ-filled life is the life of obedience and of holiness (1 Peter 1:14-16). To be chosen by God is to enter, not only into great privilege, but also into great responsibility. Peter remembers the ancient command at the very heart of all Hebrew religion. It was God's insistence to his people that they must be holy because he was holy. The word for holy is hagios whose root meaning is "different." The Temple was hagios because it was different from other buildings; the Sabbath was hagios because it was different from other days; the Christian is hagios because he is different from other men and women. The Christian is God's man/woman by God's choice. They are chosen for a task in the world and for a destiny in eternity. They are chosen to live for God in time and with him in eternity. In the world they must obey his law and reproduce his life. There is laid on the Christian the task of being different (separate, holy). —William Barclay*

- The greatest success in your life is your relational pursuit of the almighty God through holiness.
- Remember in your suffering who you're suffering for and the price He paid for your deliverance.
- Obedience won't take you anywhere without authentic love for others.

Discussion Questions

- a. When you think of God's holiness, what comes to mind?
- b. Is there anything you do to "roll up the sleeves of your mind" and prepare yourself in hard pressed times or situations?
- c. Has there ever been a time where the suffering of Jesus has helped you in the midst of suffering?
- d. Why should holiness come second to love? Can you give examples of when this happens in the Bible?