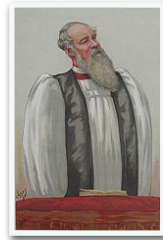


Why Be Holy?

Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

Hebrews 12: 14

“We must be holy, because this is the only sound evidence that we have a saving faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. The Twelfth Article of our Church says truly, that ‘Although good works cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God’s judgment, yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and do spring out necessarily of a true and lively faith; insomuch that by them a lively faith may be as evidently known as a tree discerned by its fruit.’”



Bishop J. C. Ryle Holiness pg. 56 Banner of Truth

J. C. Ryle published his book “Holiness” in 1887. The subject of personal holiness has largely been forgotten today. We no longer hear about clean living and purity of lives. However, holiness is relevant to us today as we live in an ever growing fallen world. The verse above from Hebrews teaches that we cannot worship God correctly without holiness. 1 Peter 1:16 says, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” God is holy and He therefore cannot allow anything unholy into Heaven.

The Bible says in Romans 3: 23, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” As all people have sinned we are all unholy and have imperfect souls due to sin. God has provided one way for sinners to be declared holy and free from the condemnation of Hell. The Lord Jesus Christ died for sinners on the cross (John 14:6). He took the penalty of sin upon Himself. If God has convicted you of sin today, turn to the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. Ask God to show you the way of salvation and holiness. May the God of grace draw you unto Himself.

By Nathan A. Hughes