

# Be Holy

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“But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy” (1 Pet. 1:15-16).

There is none more holy than the One Who can be characterized as THE DEFINITION of holy — Jehovah. When the Lord says “Be ye holy, for I am holy,” I can’t help but think of this allimportant phrase, “I am.” We see this phrase connected to the Deity (“Godhood”) of both the Father and the Son (see Exo. 3:14; John 8:58; etc.), and we see it connected to Jesus’ statement about being the Way to heaven (John 14:6), among various other very important theological statements in many other verses. (If you have never done so, I highly encourage you to do a word study on the phrase “I am” that is connected to God).

Thus, when we come to 1 Pet. 1:15-16, it should not surprise us that such a profound statement as this is found here! “It is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy” (emphasis mine throughout, TCG). If you look at the notes in your Bible you will probably find a reference to Leviticus 11:44-45: “For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.”

God is the definition of holiness because He is ALL-HOLY/ALL-GOOD. Even though we as humans by practice have made ourselves NOT HOLY, God still demands holiness. We see this throughout the Bible! God gave us (humanity) the perfect example of holiness by sending our Savior Jesus Christ to walk among us, and how did we (humanity) treat Him? We rejected Him! “He came unto his own, and his own received him not” (John 1:11). I believe that verse certainly has first application to the Jews, but secondary application to ALL of humanity (Jew and Gentile alike)! He came for us ALL, and we ALL rejected Him when we sinned!

“But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Cor. 15:57). Are you thankful that you can have the victory through Jesus Christ, IF you are among the saved and you remain that way?! If you are thankful, then ACT like you are thankful by being obedient to His will! Don’t take His grace for granted or for license to sin (Rom. 6:1ff); rather, use that grace to propel you forward to greater faithfulness!

Be holy, for God is holy! Look at the perfect example of Jesus Christ, and imitate it to the best of your ability! In so doing, you’ll find the peace that surpasses human understanding (Php. 4:7), the peace that comes from being the faithful, HOLY servant of Jesus Christ!