

Lesson Notes:

Righteous & Holy

In **Matthew 5:48** Jesus encourages us to be righteous and holy. But what do these terms mean and how do we become righteous and holy? Following is a discussion of those two terms and how we may strive for both holiness and righteousness in our lives.

Scriptural Principles

1) God is Righteous

Psalm 145:7 tells us that God is righteous in all his ways. In **Daniel 9:14** we are told that God is righteous in dealings with us when we are not.

2) We are encouraged to pursue Righteousness

Paul encourages Timothy in **1Timothy 6:11** to flee all sin and to pursue righteousness. In **Ephesians 6:14** Paul encourages us to put on the breastplate of righteousness.

3) So how do we pursue righteousness?

In **John 3:5-7** Jesus tells Nicodemus that he cannot enter the Kingdom of God unless he is “born again”. In **Philippians 1:11** Paul tells us that we achieve righteousness through Jesus Christ. Therefore when we recognize Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior we become righteous through the shedding of Jesus’ blood for us.

4) God is Holy

In **Isaiah 40:25** God is referred to as the Holy One. David refers to God as the Holy One in **Psalm 22:3**. Holiness refers to perfection.

5) We are encouraged to pursue Holiness

Paul encourages us in **1Timothy 2:2** to live in holiness. .Paul also encourages us in **2 Corinthians 7:1** to perfect holiness within ourselves.

6) So how do we attain holiness?

Through following the 10 Commandments and God’s 2 greatest commandments in **Matthew 22:36 – 40** to Love thy Lord with all thy heart, all thy soul and all thy mind and to love your brother as yourself.