

**Articles and Sermons :: The End of Holiness****The End of Holiness - posted by makrothumia (), on: 2011/10/6 12:29**

The End of Holiness

Yes, there is an "end" for the holiness of God! His Holiness has as its goal an outward expression through His people. Peter understood this practical implication and wrote: "as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who calls you is holy, you also BE holy in ALL YOUR CONDUCT." The end/goal of God's holiness is the manifestation seen through our visible conduct before the eyes of the world.

Ezekiel also received this same revelation of God's purpose for His Holiness: "Therefore say to the house of Israel, This is what the Sovereign LORD says: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am going to do these things, but for the sake of My Holy Name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. I WILL SHOW the holiness of My Great Name, which has been profaned among the nations, the name you have profaned among them. Then the nations will know that I AM the LORD, when I SHOW MYSELF HOLY THROUGH YOU BEFORE THEIR EYES."

God's goal for His holiness is not a philosophical admiration contrasted against the common depravity of fallen man. God is not made holy before men simply by our describing Isaiah's vision. The goal of His Holiness is the daily manifestation of His own divine nature through the Holy CONDUCT of His people. His people profane His great name by their conduct and so it will be through the Holy CONDUCT of His people that His Holiness is SEEN by all nations.

Let us not deceive ourselves or sell His Great Name short by thinking that poetic and emotional admiration of His Holiness is satisfying to our God; no, He will never be satisfied until His Holiness is seen by DEMONSTRATION through our HOLY CONDUCT before the eyes of all nations.

Holy CONDUCT rather than flattering words is what truly magnifies His Holiness. Leonard Ravenhill was correct in saying that the greatest miracle men can witness is "A Holy God taking an unholy man and making him holy; then putting him back into an unholy world and keeping him holy." Neither the world, nor in reality ourselves, understand God's Holiness any more than our actions prove! God's Holiness is not something to only BELIEVE in - it is what we are called to BE - even as HE IS!

makrothumia

**Re: The End of Holiness - posted by dietolive, on: 2011/10/6 13:07**

I totally agree makrothumia.

Be well today,  
Doug

**Re: The End of Holiness - posted by UntoBabes (), on: 2011/10/6 13:32**

I suppose what you mean by the word "end" here is: "An outcome worked toward", or "the ultimate state", "purpose", or "the object by virtue of or for the sake of which an event takes place" as in "Jesus is the end of the law" NOT "the point where something ceases to exist".

Thank you for sharing.  
Much needed truth.  
God bless.

**Re: - posted by makrothumia (), on: 2011/10/6 13:34**

Yes indeed!

makrothumia

**Re: , on: 2011/10/6 14:45**

"Let us not deceive ourselves or sell His Great Name short by thinking that poetic and emotional admiration of His Holiness is satisfying to our God; no, He will never be satisfied until His Holiness is seen by DEMONSTRATION through our HOLY CONDUCT before the eyes of all nations."

Isn't sad that some men think that these things, emotional and poetic, are mutually exclusive to Holy conduct. The same men seem to think that "freedom," as the Scriptures and Paul talk about are licences to sin, they think that freedom and walking in holiness are mutually exclusive. It's the great delusion of the religious man.....brother Frank

**Re: - posted by dietolive, on: 2011/10/6 16:24**

appolus - you wrote:

"Isn't sad that some men think that these things, emotional and poetic, are mutually exclusive to Holy conduct. The same men seem to think that "freedom," as the Scriptures and Paul talk about are licences to sin, they think that freedom and walking in holiness are mutually exclusive. It's the great delusion of the religious man.....brother Frank"

We may perhaps take makrothumia at his or her word. If makrothumia simply meant that exercising the gifts in expansive praise alone, without holiness lived out, is wrong, or that teaching alone without holiness lived out, is wrong, then what was said makes sense to me.

Doug

**Re: The harmony of the two - posted by makrothumia (), on: 2011/10/6 17:27**

Praise with holiness is fitting, praise without holiness is noise.

Prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective, while the man who ignores obedience shall cry out and not be heard.

True praise like true love delights in both declaring and doing.

Makrothumia

**Re: - posted by swornservant, on: 2011/10/6 18:08**

True holiness bears fruit to the glory of GOD and the praise of Christ!!  
True holiness lives as Jesus lived,  
walks as Jesus walked!!

**Re: The End of Holiness, on: 2011/10/6 19:40**

Makrothumia writes.....

'God is not made holy before men simply by our describing Isaiah's vision.'

Who would ever make such an assertion? Holiness comes in an encounter with the living God, the manifest presence of God in our lives. Out of that flows obedience, not to the letter of the law, but to the God who has ruined us for this life by His very presence. In Isaiah's vision, and it was a vision not head knowledge, he discovers the glory and the majesty of the Living God. He instantly understands his true state, but glory to God he sees the majesty and the glory of God. And then he hears.....

Isa 6:7 And he laid it on my mouth and said, Lo, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged.

Glory to God, glory to God we now have our sins purged not by a coal of fire but by the blood of Jesus. Jesus Himself says that those who are forgiven much love much. The woman, in the midst of the Pharisees falls at the feet of Jesus and pours out everything that she has including her many tears. The religious men in the room poured scorn upon her. This lady had an encounter with Jesus, not theologically speaking. Genuine encounters with Jesus will always effect change, whether it's Isaiah or the woman at the feet of Jesus. The scorn of men will achieve nothing.....brother Frank

**For the sake of clarity - posted by makrothumia (), on: 2011/10/7 7:59**

These two sentences were meant to be understood together:

God's goal for His holiness is not a philosophical admiration contrasted against the common depravity of fallen man. God is not made holy before men simply by our describing Isaiah's vision.

Please consider my own thoughts behind these sentences.

There are many who believe that the "contrast" between their own fallibility and God's infallibility is "worthy praise". Entire books are devoted to this contrast. Isaiah's vision is one example of this "contrast". While a vision of this type will produce a lowliness and reverence on a personal level, it is also a private experience the world can not witness. Thus it is not the way God is made Holy before the eyes of men.

When the Father of Holiness wanted to show the world His Holiness, He did it by sending His Son - full of grace and truth. The greatest picture of the Holiness of God the world has ever seen was in the daily life of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Holiness of the Father is fully seen in the Humble Obedience of the Son. That's why Jesus could say in complete perfect humility - "When you have seen ME - you have seen the Father."

It is when we are conformed to this same image, walk in this same manner, and become as He is in this world - then the world will have the same witness of the Holiness of God. This is the end of God's Holiness - to be fully conformed into His own likeness and image - the image of Jesus Christ.

makrothumia

**Re: For the sake of clarity, on: 2011/10/7 8:59**

The Lord's Holiness is seen in men and woman who have encountered the Living God. They are radically converted from a world of sin to a world of light. This radical conversion is seen in their walk. They are a living testimony of the power of God to change lives. They are a living testimony, read of men. And God gets all the glory.

I would agree that the religious man can only recite the Scriptures or the vision of Isaiah because he has never had such an encounter. He can only try and be obedient in his own strength and there will be varying degrees of "success." And the more "successful," they are the more self-righteous they become. They begin to look down on others, demand that others live as they are living, they begin to thank God that they are not like others. They begin to consider themselves elite and they become aloof. The end of all self-righteous men is failure, whether in one year or fifty, the flesh can only take you so far and even the distance that it does take you is repugnant to God. These men have a ministry of death.

The man who has genuinely encountered God always keeps his eyes upon Jesus, not himself. He could be considered the holiest man alive by others but he would reject such a preposterous notion because he has stood in the shadow of majesty. The foundation of his life will be love, for he knows that this was the essence of why God sent His only Son, because He so loved the world. He has been so touched by such a love, that he loves what His Lord loves.

The religious man can reproduce many things in this world for a time but he cannot reproduce genuine love. He can seem to many to be upstanding, as were the Pharisees, yet God has considered the inside of the cup. This outward appearance is everything to the religious man because ultimately he is a fearer of man, not God. He fears what others think, it's what motivates him in all that he does. He is an actor and one full of guile, yet, God has considered the inside of the cup because he looks upon the heart.

God alone knows where His child has come from and where he is going. This man is His servant and the Lord delights in him and delights to do a good work in him for His own good pleasure. He is infinitely patient and kind with His children, compare that to the religious man who is infinitely impatient.

When the child of God messes up it breaks their heart and they come to their Father, head bowed low and they lay themselves before their God and expect, no desire to be punished. And what do they find? Mercy rather than judgement and they weep to find it so. They leave the mercy room of God enthralled and determined to live ever more like their Lord because they love Him so much and know in their very dna just what the Lord has done for them and it is a beautiful thing. Now contrast that with the way a religious man deals with children of God. Harsh words, judgement, no love, no desire to see a man restored, its all very ugly and always, always the missing ingredient is supernatural love. Praise the Lord for 1 Cor 13, the antidote to religious men.

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithes of mint and dill and cummin, and you have left undone the weightier matters of the Law, judgment, mercy, and faith. You ought to have done these and not to leave the other undone. Blind guides who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel! Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of extortion and excess. Blind Pharisee! First cleanse the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of them may be clean also. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which indeed appear beautiful outside, but inside they are full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so you also appear righteous to men outwardly, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the tombs of the prophets, and decorate the tombs of the righteous, and say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. Therefore you are witnesses to yourselves, that you are the sons of those who killed the prophets; and you fill up the measure of your fathers. Serpents! Offspring of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell? Therefore, behold, I send prophets and wise men and scribes to you. And you will kill and crucify some of them. And some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city; (Mat 23:23-34)

**Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2011/10/7 9:04**

Quote:  
-----Let us not deceive ourselves or sell His Great Name short by thinking that poetic and emotional admiration of His Holiness is satisfying to our God; no, He will never be satisfied until His Holiness is seen by DEMONSTRATION through our HOLY CONDUCT before the eyes of all nations.

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Amen dear brother. Men think to just speak of God's Holiness makes them more holy than others who do not speak of God's Holiness, this truly is a delusion from the enemy. We must walk, act, and be holy in our hearts. To glorify God is not just to say that with the mouth constantly it is to act in accordance with the Scriptures by the power of the Spirit.

May God truly make His bride holy in these last days.

**Re: For the sake of clarity - posted by dietolive, on: 2011/10/7 10:07**

To all who have written thus far: great words.

As more has been written however, I wonder about the spirit though. To makrothumia in particular:

Brother, (or Sister, I do not know which), Why not respond to my original post about Isaiah's vision itself? I wonder why you began a new thread instead?

Also, I wonder as I read you, Do you care about the soul on the other end of your many criticisms? And did you think by calling my enraptured praise, (fallen and pathetic as it is), mere "philosophical admiration", that you could stop me from p

raising my Lord? My dear Brother, (or Sister), the very rocks will cry out.

Please, please, make an effort to reach out to the people with whom you have a difference of opinion. Take the time to establish rapport. Speak to people directly, like you actually cared about them, and use kindness in your words, just like you would want someone to do you.

Don't you know that most people, in their immaturity, could care less what you think, until they first know that you care?

You may write me privately as well if you wish: EDIT. I would love to get to know you better.

In the meantime,

Rejoice and be well,  
Doug

**Re: - posted by dietolive, on: 2011/10/7 23:52**

Dear makrothumia - I've responded to your email, but the spam filter keeps knocking me down...

Doug

**Re: - posted by makrothumia (), on: 2011/10/8 6:29**

Sorry about that Doug,

I work at a public school and their local area network filter is sensitive to some things more than others.

Try this one. makrothumiainhim@gmail.com

**Re: - posted by murrcolr (), on: 2011/10/8 10:50**

Quote; This is the end of God's Holiness - to be fully conformed into His own likeness and image - the image of Jesus Christ

Amen and Amen

No longer I that live but Christ that lives in me.

Andrew Murray Quote; Absolute surrender-let me tell you where I got those words. I used them myself often, and you have heard them numerous times. But once, in Scotland, I was in a company where we were talking about the condition of Christ's Church, and what the great need of the Church and of believers is. There was in our company a godly Christian worker who has much to do in training other workers for Christ, and I asked him what he would say was the great need of the Church-the message that ought to be preached. He answered very quietly and simply and determinedly:

"Absolute surrender to God is the one thing."

quote; We must walk, act, and be holy in our hearts. To glorify God is not just to say that with the mouth constantly it is to act in accordance with the Scriptures by the power of the Spirit.

Human effort when I read the quote above all that could think about was human effort, a man trying to live Holy life by his own strength...

A man may be a preacher, he may work most diligently in his ministry, a man may be a Christian worker, and others may say of him that he makes great sacrifices, and yet you can feel there is something lacking. You feel that he is not a spiritual man; there is no spirituality about his life. Ah! there is the weakness of the Church of Christ. It is all in that one word -flesh Quote by Andrew Murray

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Quote; First cleanse the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of them may be clean also.

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We would do well to take heed of the words of Christ in the quote above. Take a close look at the words, Cleanse the inside first so the outside can be clean also... Jesus was saying if there is no cleansing on the inside then there can be no cleansing on the outside. Without the heart being cleansed it doesn't matter how hard we try, to walk and act and be holy in our hearts it will all be done in the flesh.

Father may the Holy Spirit cleanse us, make our hearts pure and put off the old man with all his deeds, and put on the new man Christ who to reign in our hearts so there is no provision for the flesh...

**Re: , on: 2011/10/8 10:55**

A man may be a preacher, he may work most diligently in his ministry, a man may be a Christian worker, and others may say of him that he makes great sacrifices, and yet you can feel there is something lacking. You feel that he is not a spiritual man; there is no spirituality about his life. Ah! there is the weakness of the Church of Christ. It is all in that one word -flesh Quote by Andrew Murray

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We would indeed do well to heed the words of our Lord, excellent point brother. Holiness and righteousness flows from the inside out.....brother Frank

**Re: - posted by dietolive, on: 2011/10/8 15:44**

Amen murrcolr!

Doug