



# CHRIST

## REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

Biblical Preaching & Reverent Worship  
[www.CRBC.faith](http://www.CRBC.faith) • 2630 Woodward Ave. – New Castle, IN

## Pursuing Holiness Prt.1

Heb.12:14

‘Study to show thyself approved unto God...’ – 2 Timothy 2:15  
The importance of reading and learning God’s word is a vital part of both growing and also experiencing the blessing of belonging to God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ.

This truth is one of the purposes why we wish to offer you these sermon notes which are to be used while listening to the sermon.

If you have any further questions relating to the sermon, sermon notes or would like to learn more about the ministry of Christ Reformed Baptist Church, please do not hesitate to contact

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Roadmap of where we have been and where we are going:  
Enduring Faith Defined (11:1) Exemplified (11:2-40), and finally  
Commanded (12:1-26).

**INTRODUCTION** – Today we begin to understand Biblical  
Holiness

**HOW THEN ARE WE GOING TO CONSIDER v.14 ?**

**NC Duty #2 – Pursue Biblical Holiness (Sanctification).**

1. Properly defining biblical holiness.

(a) It's Vital

(b) It's Dangerous

2. Mistaken definitions, concepts, and ideas of holiness.

(a) Theological / Doctrinal

(b) Practical / Applicatory

3. What is biblical holiness?

(a) Justification and Sanctification *carefully* guarded and defined.

(b) What can holiness do and not do?

(c) God's Holiness and Our holiness.

4. What is the source of this Holiness?

(a) Jesus' blood and Covenant.

(b) The Trinity's role and involvement.

5. How is holiness lived out?

(a) Practical or sensational?

(b) What does 'pursuing' holiness feel and look like?

(c) Hinderances to pursuing holiness.

**v.14 (b) NON-NEGOTIAL – The necessity of Holiness.**

(a) Understanding the grammar and syntax of the text.

1. Does it mean what it appears to be saying?

2. Errors of wrong interpretation (current and past).

(b) Why is this so necessary?

(c) Danger of self-deception.

## **I. Properly defining biblical holiness.**

### **(A) It is of vital importance.**

- If you get it wrong, or become indifferent to the command to pursue it, you are placing yourself in a very precarious position.

### **(B) Defining it can be dangerous.**

- Wrong definitions, concepts, and ideas of Biblical holiness (a) has started many cults (b) has held many people in spiritual bondage (c) has crippled many churches through religious pride and judgementalism of others.

## **II. Mistaken definitions, concepts of holiness.**

### **(A) Theological, or Doctrinal**

1. **Christian Mysticism** “Christian mysticism is the tradition of mystical practices and mystical theology within Christianity which "concerns the preparation [of the person] for, the consciousness of, and the effect of [...] a direct and transformative presence of God”
  - (a) Voluntarism – (Thomas à Kempis )
  - (b) Quietism – (Miguel de Molinos)
  - (c) Eastern Spirituality - (Macarius of Egypt)
2. Protestant ‘Sinless Perfectionism’, or ‘Complete Sanctification’.
  - (d) John Wesley
3. Protestant ‘Antinomianism’ or ‘Hyper-Grace’
  - (e) Johannes Agricola

### **(B) Practical, or Applicatory**

- One of the most damaging results to the true pursuit of biblical holiness is not properly defining what it is and then substituting it with our own tradition or definition.

**Horatius Bonar** “Biblical Holiness is not an external thing we do or don’t; do...it is not made up of showy moralities or acts of goodness, or picturesque ceremonies and graceful routines of devotions, nor is it emotional sentimentalisms no matter how bright or somber, nor is it religious utterances on fitting occasions...It is something deeper, something truer, and more marked, than that which is called deep, and true in modern religious philosophical terms...”

1 Pet.2:9

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: