

HOLINESS (1 John 2:1-2)

Nov. 2, 2025

TEXT: 1 John 2:1-2

*Holiness is the pursuit of living set apart from sin and for God's glory; its sanctification; its growing in Christlikeness.

MAIN IDEA—Christians are to walk in holiness because God is a holy God.

MEMORY VERSE—[1 Pet. 1:16]

THE CALL TO HOLINESS (1 John 2:1a)—God calls and equips His children to walk in holiness. This is done as we reject sin and run to Christ, seeking Him through His word and depending on His Spirit.

John 1:12

1 John 1:5-10

*1) Christians are called to holiness and 2) the written word of God is the primary agent God uses by the power of His Spirit.

Ps. 119:9-11; Ps. 40:8

John Bunyan, author of Pilgrim's Progress (1628-1688)-*Either this book will keep you from sin or sin will keep you from this book.*

Titus 2:11-14; 1 Pet. 1:13-16

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***Question—Is holiness a major goal and pursuit in your life? What are habits, patterns, or rhythms that help you to pursue holiness (Big 3-God's Word, prayer, fellowship etc.)?**

THE PROVISION FOR HOLINESS (1 John 2:1b-2)—Provision for holiness has been made through the finished work of Christ our Advocate. Through Christ alone God is satisfied, and by drawing near to God through Christ alone, God is satisfied with us.

>JESUS, OUR ADVOCATE (2:1b)—An advocate is someone who comes alongside another as a helper and speaks in court on behalf of a defendant.

Heb. 7:25

Rev. 12:10

>JESUS, THE RIGHTEOUS (2:1b)- John keeps building on this description of God's provision for our sin by describing our advocate as none other than Jesus Christ the Righteous (2:1b).

2 Cor.5:21

>JESUS, OUR PROPITIATION (2:2)-Propitiation means satisfaction. John uses this word with the OT sacrificial system in mind, which was given by God in order for Israel to approach God on His terms.

1 John 2:2

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*Since God is holy, He cannot and will not overlook our sin. By human nature we are not holy, but sinful. Yet God's holiness demands punishment for sin!

*Christ was sent from the Father on our behalf to represent us before the Father who is the Righteous Judge, not based on the sinful merits of our case, but on the perfect merits of our Savior, Jesus Christ (his obedient life and sacrificial death as our substitute). The Father's just wrath against our sin has been turned away from us and punished in Christ (our substitute), and Christ's righteousness has been credited to our account as a gift of God's grace, so that the Father's wrath is turned away and now we have God's favor and love, all through Jesus Christ the Righteous, who is our propitiation.

John Stott (1921-2011)—*The propitiation that has availed to wipe out their sins is sufficient to do the same for all.*

*People from every nation, tribe, and tongue throughout the whole world will praise God in Heaven [Rev. 5:9]!

1st) Run from sin by running to God's word and hiding it in your heart (Ps. 119:11).

2nd) Run to Christ. When you sin, run straight to your Advocate in prayer (1 Jn. 1:9).

Benediction [Heb. 13:20-21]