

## Calling The World To Holiness

### 1 Thess. 4.7-8

#### Intro:

The Spirit and the bride say, “**Come!**” and let him who hears say, “**Come!**” and let him who thirsts *come*... (Rev. 22.17). **What an invitation...** But what are they calling or inviting them with? The gospel is the calling agent for the world (2 Thess. 2.13-14). Why is the gospel the calling agent? Because it is the power of God unto salvation (Rom. 1.16-17). So who is being called? The sinful world is being called to God through the gospel message of Jesus Christ (Mark 16.15-16). What are they being called to? The simple answer is this, **Holiness!** (1 Thess. 4.7-8). Why are they being called to holiness? Because the One who is calling is **HOLY** (1 Pet. 1.15-16). **So God is calling the world to COME... HOW???**

#### Discussion:

##### **I. Through Our Belief in Christ (1 Pet. 1.13-21)**

- A. Being consistent helps the world see **holiness** (vs. 13). *Rest fully...*
- B. Truly **conducting ourselves** in a righteous manner (vss. 15-17). *In all our lives...*
- C. Living **blood-bought lives** before the world (vss.18-19). *We dare not forget...*
- D. Truly believing the Deity of Christ and the glory given to Him (vss. 20-21).

##### **II. Through Our Intentional Separation from the UNHOLY (2 Cor. 6.11-7.1)**

- A. Being **honest** of our sentiments and attitudes is vitally important (vss. 11-13).
- B. Understanding our position with the world and **proper separation** (vss. 14-18).
- C. Demonstrating to the world **our true identity** when we separate (vss. 16-18).
- D. Promises and benefits for the mind and body upon obedience (7.1).

##### **III. Through Our Understanding of Grace (Rom. 6.15-23)**

- A. We show the world that sin is **not honorable**, we cannot continue in it (vs. 15).
- B. We choose Jesus as Master **to show the world** true holiness (vss. 16-18).
- C. Presenting ourselves servants of Christ **through His grace** for holiness (vs. 19).
- D. Rewards for understanding God’s grace is holiness and eternal life (vss. 22-23).

#### Conclusion:

What a grave responsibility we have to simply be holy according to God’s standard and not our own. Our friends and loved ones must see a real difference between us and them in regard to character. We owe it to our fellow man to be genuine and sincere in all manners of life and lead sinners to the Father through Christ. Finally, our neighbor needs to see us truly believing in the hope we have in Christ and the life we’re looking forward to when the Lord returns. **COME!**