

Principles of

Biblical Spirituality

Holy Living and Perfectionism (A)

PART 3

Holy Living & Perfectionism



Guest contributor: **Dr. Martin Hanna**,
Associate Professor of Historical
Theology. Director, MA in Religion and
Seminary Affiliations & Extensions

“Holy Living and Perfectionism”

“We believe that the greatest and most urgent of all our needs is a revival of true godliness, which is **true biblical spirituality**, or having Christ formed in us by the Holy Spirit.”

Perfection

- Matthew 5:48
- James 1:4
- Colossians 3:14
- 1 John 1:6-10
- 1 John 4:16-21

Sinlessness

- 1 John 1:10
- 1 John 3:7-10

Holy Living

- Leviticus 20:26
- 1 Peter 1:13-16

"Why is it that so many
claim to be holy and sinless?
It is because they are so far
from Christ."

Manuscript 5, 1885

The teaching given in regard to what is termed “holy flesh” [last generation theology] is an error. All may now obtain holy hearts, but it is not correct to claim in this life to have holy flesh [sinless perfection]. The apostle Paul declares, “I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing” (Romans 7:18).

To those who have tried so hard to obtain by faith so-called holy flesh [sinless perfection], I would say, You cannot obtain it. Not a soul of you has holy flesh [sinless perfection] now. No human being on the earth has holy flesh [sinless perfection]. It is an impossibility” (Selected Messages, Vol. 2, pg. 32).

"Those who take pains to call attention to their good works, constantly talking of their sinless state and endeavoring to make their religious attainments prominent, are only deceiving their own souls by so doing."

The Sanctified Life, p. 7 & 12

"Why is it that so many claim to be holy and sinless? It is because they are so far from Christ."

Manuscript 5, 1885

Questions to Ponder

- Can we stop performing a specific sinful activity? YES
- Will we ever reach the point in our current life that we will not be able to sin? Can we be sin-proof now?
- Can we absolutely lose the desire to sin at all in this present life?
- Would we ever cease being sinners in this present life?