Holiness Is Not an Option Does our salvation depend to some degree on our attaining some level of personal holiness?

I. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO MERIT SALVATION THROUGH PERSONAL HOLINESS. Isaiah 64:6

Even our tears of repentance need to be washed in the blood of the Lamb.

II. IT IS ONLY THROUGH THE OBEDIENCE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST ON OUR BEHALF THAT WE CAN BE SAVED.

Romans 5:19; 1 Peter 3:18; Hebrews 10:5-10

OUR HOLINESS BEFORE GOD DEPENDS ENTIRELY
ON THE WORK OF JESUS CHRIST FOR US, BY GOD'S WILL.

III. THE PERSONNEL PERSUIT OF HOLINESS IS ESSENTIAL. Hebrew 12:14

This does not refer to the Holiness which we have in Christ!

The writer is speaking of a <u>holiness that we are to Strive after</u>. Without This holiness, no one will see the lord!

When the Holy Spirit comes into our lives at our Salvation,

He comes to make us holy in practice.

If there is not, at least a yearning in our hearts.....

to live a holy life that is pleasing to God,,

We must recognize our faith in Christ is not Genuine!

IV. THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF SALVATION IS THAT

WE BE HOLY AND BLAMELESS IN HIS SIGHT. Ephesians 1:3, 4

a. To continue to live in sin as a Christian

is to go contrary to God's very purpose for our salvation.

b. Holiness is not necessary as a condition of salvation!

That would be salvation by works!

- c. The Holy Spirit who creates within us SAVING FAITH also creates within us THE DESIRE FOR HOLINESS.
- d. HE SIMPLY DOES NOT CREATE ONE WITHOUT THE OTHER!! Titus 2:11-14
- e. The same grace that brings salvation teaches us to renounce ungodly living.
- V. WE CANNOT RECEIVE HALF OF GOD'S GRACE.
 - a. His grace brings not only FORGIVENESS OF OUR SINS, but, also FREEDOM FROM SIN'S DOMINION. **James 2:14-20**
 - b. Faith that does not result in works in a holy life, is not a living faith but a dead one.

It is no better that that which the demons possess.

VI. GOD'S NATURE DEMANDS HOLINESS IN THE LIFE OF A CHRISTIAN!

a. When He calls us to salvation, He calls us to fellowship with Him and His Son.

1 John 1:3: 1 John 1:5-10

b. How can we have fellowship with Him is we continue to walk in Darkness?