

## PERFECTING HOLINESS

Michael Pickford

This interesting phrase, “*Perfecting holiness*,” is found in 2 Corinthians 7:1). We are commanded to do so. But what does it mean?

Paul wrote the phrase as a contrast to indulging in “*filthiness of the flesh and spirit*.”

“*Cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh*.” We must be careful about the things we do with our bodies. Drunkenness, fornication, homosexuality, and adultery are just a few things that can defile the flesh and prevent us from perfecting holiness. We would do well to study the works of the flesh in Galatians 5:19-21 and learn how to cleanse ourselves from them.

“*Cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the... spirit*.” Man consists of two parts – flesh and the spirit (soul). In order to perfect holiness, we must not only keep our bodies clean, but also our minds. Impure minds, unholy thoughts, and evil imaginations keep us unholy in God’s sight. If we’re watching impure things in movies’ or TV programs we are allowing these programs to direct our minds into impure thoughts. It is even possible to commit adultery in the mind (Matthew 5:27-29). James spoke to body and soul when he said, “*cleanse your hands* (body, flesh), *you sinners; and purify your hearts* (spirit)” (James 4:8). Be holy, for God is holy! 🔍

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don’t hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God’s word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD’S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



## COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00  
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00  
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**



## SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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“They...searched the scriptures daily...” –Acts 17:11

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## A NEW CHRISTIAN

Michael Pickford

When one becomes a Christian it is a time of great rejoicing. The Ethiopian Eunuch went on his way rejoicing after being baptized into Christ where salvation is (Acts 8:39; Galatians 3:26-27; 2 Timothy 2:10). After becoming a Christian, the goal now is to remain faithful to the Lord until death in order to receive the eternal crown of life (Revelation 2:10). In order to accomplish this, there are at least three things a new Christian must possess...

**Desire.** That is, a desire for more knowledge of God’s word. “*As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby*” (1 Peter 2:2). Growing in biblical knowledge itself can discourage one if he is not careful. It is important to begin with the simple teachings and concepts – the “Milk” of the word. This will set a foundation upon which he can build and grow, eventually studying and grasping the “Difficult” things found in God’s word; but it is essential to read God’s word on a daily basis (Acts 17:11). This can be challenging, but it must be done. Just as faith comes by hearing God’s word, faith continues to grow by a daily reading (hearing) of His word. There are many excellent reading schedules

out there that helps one read through the Bible on a regular basis. Pick One!

**Development.** A new Christian must develop into a more seasoned Christian. This begins with reading and learning God’s word, but true development comes as we apply what we learn to our daily lives. Knowledge alone cannot keep one faithful; one must apply that knowledge. “*But be doers of the word, and not hearers only*” (James 1:22). This is challenging, but by keeping the eternal goal in mind (Heaven), we can have sufficient strength to learn to live according to the way of Christ.

**Direction.** I’m speaking here of leadership. A new Christian sorely needs good leadership in order to grow in knowledge and also in how to apply that knowledge in daily living. Thankfully, God has already set in place the direction we need. He has done this through the church in which He has set up evangelists, pastors (elders), and teachers (Ephesians 4:11). These were put in place so that we might be built up in the Lord, in knowledge of His word, “*That we should no longer be children*” (Ephesians 4:12-14). Faithfully attending services is essential (Hebrew 10:25) in order to fully benefit from these leaders. 🔍

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# JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD

James Hahn

John declared, “And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name” (Jn. 20:30-31). This emphasizes the necessity of believing that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that this belief is based upon evidence. In John 5, Jesus appealed to various witnesses to prove His deity. Let’s examine the testimony of these witnesses.

1) **Himself.** Jesus said, “If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true” (Jn. 5:31). He truthfully declared Himself to be the Son of God (Jn. 4:26; 8:14, 24). He recognized, however, that under the law the testimony of one witness would not stand, so He appealed to other witnesses (Dt. 19:15).

2) **John The Baptist.** Jesus said, “There is another that beareth witness of me; and I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me is true. Ye sent unto John, and he bare witness unto the truth” (Jn. 5:32-33). What was John’s testimony? In John 1:33-34, John said, “And I knew Him not; but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.”

3) **The Works Of Christ.** Jesus said, “But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me” (Jn. 5:36). Nicodemus recognized that no one could do the miracles or works Jesus did, “except God be with him” (Jn. 3:2).

4) **The Father.** Jesus affirmed, “And the Father Himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me” (Jn. 5:37). When Jesus was baptized, the Father declared, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (Mt 3:17).

5) **The Old Testament Scriptures.** Jesus also appealed to the Old Testament scriptures, in which the Jews placed their hope of eternal life. He said, “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me” (Jn. 5:39).

6) **Moses.** Jesus made specific reference to the testimony of Moses. He said, “Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust. For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me” (Jn. 5:45-46).

7) **The Holy Spirit And The Apostles.** In addition to the witnesses to which Jesus appealed in John 5, He later said to the apostles, “But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the father, he shall testify of me: And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning” (Jn. 15:26-27).

To deny Jesus as the Son of God is to declare all these witnesses false. -

## SERMON NOTES

*Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.*

STUDY  
DAILY!  
Acts  
17:11

### Godly Living (2)

Introduction:

I. \_\_\_\_\_

II. \_\_\_\_\_

III. \_\_\_\_\_

#### **DUTY LIST...**

##### **SUNDAY MORNING**

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Bible Reading by... Frank Anderson  
Reading: 2 Timothy 3:10-14
- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Opening Prayer.....Ben Green
- Lord’s Table:  
Lead.....Kenny Johnson  
Serve.....John Nelson  
Serve.....Robert Johnson
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd

##### **SUNDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader.....Kory Klienbreil
- Lord’s Table.....Kenny Johnson

##### **WEDNESDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Invitation.....Kenny Johnson

#### **GOD’S PLAN OF SALVATION**

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

**Home Bible Studies  
Available Upon Request!**

**Obey Today!**