"The Need for Holiness"

Isa. 35:1-10

Introduction

- I. Isaiah prophesied of a time of holiness for man (Isa. 35:1-10).
- II. Under the New Testament man is able to be holy by obeying the Law of Christ (1 Pet. 1:13-16; 2:9; 1 Thess. 4:7).
- III. Being holy requires purity, devotion, and sanctification.
- IV. Why should I want to be holy?

Discussion

- I. I want to be more like God.
 - A. God is infinitely holy (Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8).
 - B. God expected Israel to strive for holiness (Lev. 19:2; 20:26; cf. Spiritual Israel/the church 1 Pet. 1:13-16).
 - C. Paul emphasized the need for each member of the church of Christ to be holy (Eph. 4:24).
 - D. If we really want to be more like God, then we will strive for holy lives.
- II. I want to be more pure.
 - A. All mankind struggles with the stain of sin (Rom. 3:23; 1 John 1:6-10).
 - B. As such, mankind becomes impure/unholy.
 - C. Through faithful obedience and commitment, mankind can be pure (2 Cor. 7:1; 1 John 3:1-3; 2 Tim. 2:21; 1 Pet. 1:7; cf. Zech. 13:9).
- III. I want to go to Heaven.
 - A. Contrary to what some believe and teach, the Earth is not going to exist forever.
 - B. With that knowledge, I must make preparations now so that I will be ready to leave this world (2 Pet. 3:11-14).
 - C. Without holiness, mankind cannot go to Heaven (Heb. 12:14; Rev. 21:7; 22:14).

Conclusion

- I. There is a great need for holiness.
- II. We must not let the world deceive us into believing that we can live lives of unholiness and still be pleasing to God.