Holy Living Before God

Scripture Reading: 2Co 6:16-7:1

Introduction:

1. No one is perfect. Even the best individuals make mistakes.

2. We as Christians are called to live holy before God.

I. DO NOT BE UNEQUALLY YOKED

A. THE MEANING

- 1. A donkey and an ox could not be yoked together -De 22:10
- 2. Christians and pagans can not be yoked together -2Co 6:14-16

B. THE APPLICATION

- 1. We are to be the positive influence on the world today -1Co 5:9, 10; Mt 5:14-16; 9:11-13
- 2. We must not condone or practice sin -1Pe 4:3, 4

II. <u>REMEMBER THE PRIZE</u>

A. GOD DWELLED WITH HIS PEOPLE IN THE OT

- 1. He walked with them -2Co 6:16-18; Le 26:11, 12
- 2. Therefore, the camp had to be clean
 - a. No one ceremonial unclean could be in the camp -Nu 5:1-4
 - b. No refuse was allowed in the camp -De 23:12-14

B. GOD DWELLS WITH HIS CHURCH TODAY

- 1. God protects and provides for His church -e.g. Paul
 - a. He protected the church by stopping Saul of Tarsus -Ac 9
 - b. He provided for the church by converting Him -Co 1:23
- 2. God is with us today
 - a. Through His word -Ro 10:17; He 4:12; 2Ti 3:16, 17
 - b. Through prayer -1Pe 5:7; Lk 18:1; 1Th 5:17

III. <u>CLEANSE OURSELVES INSIDE AND OUT</u>

A. REMEMBER WE HAVE BEEN CLEANSED

- 1. We were once lost in sin -Ro 3:23; 1Co 6:9-11
- 2. We were buried with Christ in baptism -Ro 6:3, 4
- Only the blood of Jesus can cleanse us of our sins -Ep 1:7; Co 1:20; He 9:12; Re 5:9

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B. CONTINUE MOVING TOWARD HOLINESS

- 1. We do not look back -He 10:35-39; Lk 9:62
- 2. Looking back is like a dog returning to his vomit -2Pe 2:20-22
- 3. We move forward by
 - a. Christian graces -2Pe 1:5-8
 - b. Following the example of Christ -Ga 2:20; 2Co 3:18

Conclusion:

- 1. We live more for God each day.
- 2. As we do so, we perfect holiness in the fear of the Lord.