

*2 Corinthians Series: "Learning to Lean on God"*

**"Striving for Holiness"**

David Owens

2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

3.21.10

***Introduction:***

- A. If \_\_\_\_\_ on our \_\_\_\_\_ are not a laughing matter, how much more serious are \_\_\_\_\_ on our \_\_\_\_\_?
- B. In today's text, Paul addresses one of the great challenges we face—how do we maintain a level of \_\_\_\_\_ in an \_\_\_\_\_ world?

***I. Understanding the Word***

- A. Many commentators see today's section in 2 Corinthians as a major \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Far from being a digression, these verses play a strategic role in Paul's ongoing apologetic of his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. The text raises two important questions:
  - 1. What does it \_\_\_\_\_ to be \_\_\_\_\_ together?
  - 2. Who are the \_\_\_\_\_ that Paul has in mind?
- D. The principle Paul was communicating is that there are certain things which are fundamentally \_\_\_\_\_.
- E. I believe that the unbelievers Paul had in mind were his \_\_\_\_\_ at Corinth.

***II. Applying the Word***

- A. Why Should We Strive for Holiness?
  - 1. Because \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_. (Rev. 4:6,8; 1 Jn. 1:5)
  - 2. Because we are \_\_\_\_\_ to be \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Pt. 1:15,16)
- B. What is Holiness?
  - 1. It is not an attempt to be \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ people.
  - 2. It is an attempt to be \_\_\_\_\_ from that which is \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and to be set apart for God.
- C. How Can We Strive for Holiness?
  - 1. It takes \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. It is a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3. It requires \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 4. It must be one of our highest \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer Key: Intro. A. stains, clothes, stains, souls. B. holiness, unholy. I.A. digression. I.B. gospel, ministry. I.C.1. mean, yoked. I.C.2. unbelievers. I.D. incompatible. I.E. Opponents. II.A.1. God, holy. II.A.2. called, holy. II.B.1. isolated, unholy. II.B.2. separate, unholy, evil. II.C.1. effort. II.C.2. process. II.C.3. separation. II.C.4. priorities.