

The Man of God (Part 1); Romans 12:9-13

I. Holiness

A. Romans 12:9; Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

B. The primary Old Testament word for holiness means “to cut” or “to separate.”

Fundamentally, holiness is a cutting off or separation from what is unclean, and consecration to what is pure. (Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible)

C. “To set apart” does not quite cover the full meaning of the word.

D. To set apart for a divine purpose; “consecration to what is pure” (abhor evil, hold fast to what is good)

E. Abhor evil

1. The root word is used 4 other times

2. Romans 1:28–30; ²⁸ And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

3. Titus 3:3; For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

4. Mark 10:22; Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

F. Hold fast to what is good

1. To unite, join, cling, glue

2. “I’m gonna stick to you like glue”

3. Acts 8:29; And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.”

4. Matthew 19:5; **and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?**

G. The man of God is holy, separated from all that is evil and cling like glue to all that is good and right

II. Brotherly Love

A. Romans 12:10; Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

B. Outdo - to give preference

C. Honor - precious value

1. Do we value each other in this way? Do we think that the people sitting around us are precious and valuable?

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19–20; ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

D. Barnabas

1. Acts 9:26–27; ²⁶ And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. ²⁷ But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and

declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus.

2. Acts 4:36–37; ³⁶ Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, ³⁷ sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

E. The man of God views the Christian family as precious and valuable

III. Diligence

A. Romans 12:11; Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

B. Slothful - lazy, idle

C. Zeal - Hasten, apply or devote yourself

D. Fervent - to boil, to be hot, enthusiastic

E. Serve the Lord

F. Philip the deacon

1. Acts 6:3; Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.

G. Philip the evangelist

1. Acts 8:4–8; Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word.

⁵ Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ.

⁶ And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. ⁸ So there was much joy in that city.

H. Philip the Father

1. Acts 21:8–9; ⁸ On the next day we departed and came to Caesarea, and we entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. ⁹ He had four unmarried daughters, who prophesied.

I. Philip spent his life in service to God

J. I see these words; zeal, fervent, and serve, active throughout Philip's life

K. The man of God seeks to serve the Lord in every aspect of his life

IV. Hopeful

A. Romans 12:12; Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

B. A confident expectation of Jesus' return

1. Nothing wishy washy here, and we are supposed to rejoice (be glad)

2. We expect the car to start when we turn the key

3. Do we have the same expectation that Jesus will return?

C. Patient in tribulation

1. Romans 5:1–5; Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

D. Constant in prayer

- 1.To endure, persevere, remain faithful, continually devoting themselves
 - 2.Acts 1:14; All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.
- E.The man of God patiently awaits Jesus return no matter what the circumstances are

V.Gracious

- A.Romans 12:13; Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.
- B.The idea of being hospitable or gracious is an important one to God
- 1.Deuteronomy 24:19; “When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.
- C.If you were new or passing through a town, you went to the center of town or were met in the gate
- 1.Genesis 19:1; The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed himself with his face to the earth
 - 2.Genesis 19:8; Behold, I have two daughters who have not known any man. Let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please. Only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof.”
- D.Hospitality is how Ruth met Boaz and Obed was born; the father of Jesse, the father of David
- 1.Ruth 2:2; And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, “Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor.” And she said to her, “Go, my daughter.”
- E.This hospitality, this graciousness is just as important today
- 1.Hebrews 13:2; Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.
- F.God says “seek” to show hospitality - to pursue
- G.The man of God looks for areas and ways to show God’s graciousness through hospitality and giving

VI.The Man of God

- A.Holy
- B.Loving
- C.Diligent
- D.Hopeful
- E.Gracious