

THIS WEEK'S DRINK FROM THE SPRING – 3-29-10

This Week's Thought: Holy: *“Devoted entirely to the deity or the work of deity.”*

This Week's Quote: *“You can't get holy in a hurry, but if start taking steps in the direction, ask God, 'Put within me some holy motivation,'”*Malcolm Creek

This Week's Prayer Concern: Join with me this week in thanking God for the plan of salvation. As we participate in Communion Services, may we be brought closer to each other and our Lord. Please pray for Elvin Hollsopple and his family. As I write this (Saturday) Elvin is a resident at Siemon's Home in Somerset and is nearing death.

This Week's Scripture: *“For it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy.’”* (I Peter 1:16 N.I.V.)

This week is known as “Holy Week.” Why is that? What does it mean to be “holy?” Can we become holy?

Augustine is considered to be one of the greatest theologians of church history, but his lifestyle before coming to Christ was rebellious and sensuous.

One day, after becoming a Christian, he was walking in front of a tavern he used to frequent. In front of him and walking toward him was a prostitute, smiling as she assumed Augustine had finally returned after his ridiculous little phase of religion. As they approached each other, he continued to look forward and passed her without even looking at her.

“Augustine,” she said. “Don't you recognize who you just walked by? It is me!” For a moment, he stopped, turned to her and simply said, “Yes, but it is no longer me.”

In 2 Corinthians 7:1, Paul writes, *“Since we have these promises, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”* In other words, God's promises should affect our behavior.

Holiness is really an internal quality perfected or completed in our lives by our claiming God's promises of our new identity and possessions and by allowing the Holy Spirit to change our behavior. Becoming holy is accomplished by faith, just like salvation. God is the source of it, not our human effort. We begin to become holy when we allow His exceeding great and precious promises to paint the picture inside us of who we really are; “the righteousness of God in Christ.

Wishing You a Blessed Holy Week,
Pastor Guy