Let’s Keep Our Faith Pure

The book of Hebrews is full of exhortations inspired by the Holy Spirit. We all need encouragement. God knows this world wears us down, wears us thin and wears us out. Faith matters. God wants his people to have a faith that is alive, growing and pure. Holiness can be a dangerous concept. It can sometimes lead to two extremes. People can feel that they are so far from God’s holiness that they may as well give up trying to live for God. Or people can feel so close to God and his holiness that they can make all other people around them want to give up. Ouch!

There is a difference between the holiness that has been imputed to a believer for all eternity and the holiness that a believer must pursue daily. The holiness imputed is a free gift of God’s grace through the work of another: Jesus Christ. Holiness that believers must now live out is our new work. What will protect us from imbalance and harm is the firm knowledge that we have no righteousness of our own. Exhortations of holiness are done in the midst of the loving grace of God

We believers are challenged through the many exhortations in God’s Word to live in godliness and holiness. The phrase, “see to it,” is often used. We are the overseers of our lives in the context of God’s gift of salvation in Christ. We are called to grow more and more toward the high calling we have already received.

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**Hebrews 12:14-17**

■ PURSUE PEACE Matthew 5:9

■ PURSUE HOLINESS Galatians 5:25

■ PURSUE GRACE Hebrews 2:1

Hebrews 4:1-2, 7-11

■ AVOID BITTERNESS

■ AVOID IMMORALITY

■ AVOID GODLESSNESS