

“Holy Living”

I John 2:1-2

I. God in his love provides a way for holy living

“For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.” (Ephesians 1:4)

A. God commands us not to sin

“Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, ‘See you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.’” (John 5:14)

“Then neither do I condemn you,’ Jesus declared, ‘God now and leave your life of sin.’” (John 8:11)

“Come back to your senses and stop sinning.” (I Corinthians 15:34)

B. Whatever God commands is possible

“His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.” (2 Peter 1:3)

C. We can resist temptation

“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man, and God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.” (I Corinthians 10:13)

D. We can be free from sin’s control

“You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.” (Romans 6:18)

E. We can choose to obey God

“We make it our goal to please him.” (2 Corinthians 5:9)

II. God in his wisdom recognizes our weakness

A. He knows we have free will

B. He knows we have an enemy

C. He knows we are weak

“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet was without sin. Let us approach the throne of grace with confidence so that we may receive mercy and find grace in our time of need.” (Hebrews 5:15-16)

III. God in his mercy gives us Jesus

A. Jesus speaks to the Father in our defense

1. As Jesus he is able to sympathize with our humanity

“For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.” (Hebrews 2:17)

2. As Christ he is able to deliver us from sin's power

“Through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.” (Romans 6:18)

3. As the Righteous One he is the perfect sacrifice

B. Jesus is the atoning sacrifice for our sins

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement through faith in his blood.” (Romans 3:23-25)

C. Jesus is the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world