



Divine Call To Perfection

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There is great debate both in the religious and the secular worlds on the subject of perfection. Statements such as "I am only human..." etc., often suggests the impossibility of human being attaining perfection on this side of eternity. In Luke 18:27 Jesus noted that "...The things which are impossible with men are possible with God". So, by human works of the flesh, mankind cannot attain the level of perfection that could satisfy the righteous demands of God. But God, in His love, has made the provision through Christ's sacrificial death to impart perfection and righteousness to all who will accept God's gift by faith. "Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference" (Romans 3:20-22).

In our text, Jesus gave a clear command for perfection. It was not just a bright idea, theological thought or a nice spiritual suggestion, but a clear command. We need to note that:

- 1) God would not give an impossible command.
- 2) Commands are to be obeyed
- 3) Disobedience to divine commands is sin.
- 4) No sinner can enjoy eternal life with God.

Perfection is synonymous with Holiness, which God commands of all in the following scriptures:

- 1) Leviticus 11:44 For I am the Lord your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy:
- 2) Leviticus 11:45 For I am the Lord that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.
- 3) Leviticus 19:2 Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto

"The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord" (Matthew 10:24-25).

them, Ye shall be holy: for I the Lord your God am holy.

- 4) Leviticus 20:7 Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the Lord your God.
- 5) Leviticus 20:26 And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the Lord am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.
- 6) 1 Peter 1:15,16 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.
- 7) Ephesians 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
- 8) Colossians 1:28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

Heavenly minded Christians drop arguments and debates to obey divine commands and appropriate divine provisions by faith through the grace of God. Although God has made the provision, mankind still has the responsibility (i.e. his/her part to play) in attaining perfection as illustrated in 1 John 3:7 "Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous".

Through decision, determination, faith and obedience we can achieve divine perfection. Anything short of this, God will not accept, so let's go for it with all our hearts.