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**Limitations
of
Attaining
to
Perfect Holiness**

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Limitations of Attaining to Perfect Holiness.

The prophet Isaiah wrote:

- **Isaiah 35:8:** A highway shall be there (the wilderness and desert) and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way.

Nothing that corrupts or pollutes, or that contaminates and defiles will be found on this highway, for it is a highway of God that separates those who walk upon it, from the sinful ways of the world. It is certainly true that all mankind is unclean by nature, but some are cleansed by the grace of God and blood of Christ, but even though justified and forgiven they are not free from sin and the pollution of it. The Psalmist understood that there is a limitation to all perfection:

- I have seen a limit to all perfection, but your commandment is exceedingly broad. (Psalm 119:96).

In the book of Hebrews, it is written:

- Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron? (Hebrews 7:11).

The author of Hebrews understood that no one could attain to the perfection of the law by self-effort, no matter how hard they tried. Not because the law has a flaw, but because we do. The Bible calls this flaw sin. The apostle John understood this truth when he said:

- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. (1 John 1:8-10).

King David knew God's Law (the Ten Commandments), and loved it to the max, it was the treasure of his life, and though he declared that it is perfect, he also states, "He has seen a limit to all its perfection." The limit is not in God's Law, for it is the perfect will of God, the limit that David speaks of is sin dwelling in our inward fallen human nature (Rom. 7:17). The apostle Paul said:

- I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain. (Gal. 2:21).

The author of Ecclesiastes wrote:

- In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that man may not find out anything that will be after him. ¹⁵In my vain life I have seen everything. There is a righteous man who perishes in his righteousness, and there is a wicked man who prolongs his life in his evil-doing. ¹⁶Be not overly righteous, and do not make yourself too wise. Why should you destroy yourself? (Eccles. 7:14-16).

This means the following two things:

1. We should enjoy all the good things the world has, that are not offensive to God, and that do no harm to others.

2. We should not become so pious, that we cannot relate to those in the world around us, and so religious that even if they did want to seek after God, we would be the last person they would feel comfortable to approach, because we have made them feel distanced from us, and not worthy of our acceptance and friendship.

Christ did not surrender his life to the bloodstained cross of Calvary, so that we could attain to the perfect standard of God's Law, and His perfect Holiness, but because we could not. If any of us could attain to the glorious state of living a lifestyle free of sin Christ died for no reason. God keeps all the faithful in Christ by His love mercy and grace.

The apostle Paul expresses our human limitation to attain to God's Holiness, by saying, "he does not understand his own actions, for though he desired to do everything that is Holy, he found there were times when he did things that fall short of God's Holiness, and he hates this, because the great passion and desire of his heart was to be perfectly Holy. Recognizing, his failing to attain to the perfections of Holiness, he concluded; the law is perfect, and that it is not his true authentic self (the Spirit), that causes him to fall short, but sin, that dwells within him. (Rom. 7:15-20).

This is why he states, "he does not frustrate the grace of God, because if any of us could attain to the righteousness the law demands, then Christ died for no purpose." (Gal. 2:21).

Like Paul, the intention passion and desire of the faithful in Christ, is to live a life that brings honour to God, and a good testimony to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Christian faith. This desire and passion is not motivated by the demands of the law, but by the love of Christ dwelling in the heart, it is from love, faithful Christians aim to attain to do those things that brings honour to their heavenly Father and a good testimony to their King and Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

May all reading this post fully comprehend the beautiful gift, and truth contained in the following verse:

- **Ephesians 2:8-9:** For by grace, you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 🙏

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.