

**Text: 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1**

**Title: PERFECTING HOLINESS IN THE FEAR OF THE LORD**

**(I) THE PROBLEMS THAT STOP US FROM PERFECTING HOLINESS**

**1. The problem of Compromising**

*"For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness..." 2 Corinthians 6:14*

**2. The problem of attempting to combine light with darkness**

*"And what communion has light with darkness..." 2 Corinthians 6:14*

**(II) COMPELLING REASONS TO PERFECTING HOLINESS**

*"For...." 2 Corinthians 6:14,16*

*"Therefore..." 2 Corinthians 6:17*

*"Therefore..." 2 Corinthians 7:1*

**1. Because of the sanctity of being God's temple**

*"For you are the temple of the living God." 2 Corinthians 6:16*

**2. Because of the command to be set apart from the world**

*"Therefore, come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord." 2 Corinthians 6:17*

**3. Because of certainty in the promises of God**

*"Therefore, having these promises" 2 Corinthians 7:1*

a) Promise of His presence

*"I will dwell in them and walk among them." 2 Corinthians 6:16*

b) Promise of God relating to us as Father

*"I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the Lord Almighty." 2 Corinthians 6:18*

### **(III) THE MEANS TO PERFECTING HOLINESS**

#### **1. Candid Openness within our heart**

*"We have spoken openly to you, our heart is wide open..." 2 Corinthians 6:11*

*"Open your heart to us. We have wronged no one, we have corrupted no one, we have cheated no one." 2 Corinthians 7:2*

#### **2. Cleansing ourselves**

*"Let's us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit..." 2 Corinthians 7:1*

- a) of the Flesh
- b) Deeper work – of our spirit

#### **3. Consciousness of the fear of the Lord**

*"...in the fear of God." 2 Corinthians 7:1*

Sustaining this effort

- a) Knowing the terror of the Lord (2 Corinthians 5:11)
- b) Fear for the word of God (1 Corinthian. 6:16, 17, 18)

#### **4. Clearing ourselves through godly repentance (2 Corinthians 7:11)**

*"In all things you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter" 2 Corinthians 7:11*

- a) Diligence
- b) Clearing of ourselves
- c) fear
- d) Vehement desire
- e) Zeal
- f) Vindication