

THE-402 DOCTRINE OF HOLINESS

Professor: Dr. Bruce Moyer
Office: Admin. Bldg.
Office Hours: M-F 8:30-4:30

Spring Semester, 2007-2008
2 Semesters Hours Credit

TEXTS: The Holy Bible (KJV, NKJV, NIV, or NASB)
 Exploring Christian Holiness, Vol. 3: The Theological Formulation by Richard S. Taylor (Kansas City: Beacon Hill, 1985)
 Called To Be Holy by John N. Oswalt (Nappanee, IN: Evangel, 1999)

Also recommended:

Exploring Christian Holiness, Vol. 1: The Biblical Foundations by W.T. Purkiser (1983)
 Exploring Christian Holiness, Vol. 2: The Historical Development by Paul M. Bassett and William M. Greathouse (1985)
 Holiness Works: A Bibliography by William C. Miller (Nazarene Pub. House, 1986) [This is a revision and update of the previous work - Master Bibliography of Holiness Works prepared by Nazarene Theological Seminary, 1965]

SYLLABUS

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This senior level course is designed to develop the student's comprehension of the theology of Christian holiness. The Biblical teaching concerning the doctrine, experience and life of Scriptural holiness is emphasized. The student is expected to read widely in the literature of Christian holiness in order to develop a basis for the clear articulation of this Biblical doctrine in terms of its theological and practical development.

B. COURSE RATIONALE

Vennard College is committed to the teaching and promotion of Scriptural holiness. The college's Statement of Doctrine sets forth the theological position of the Board of Trustees, Administration, Faculty and Staff. This course is designed to (1) synthesize the Biblical teaching on Christian holiness, (2) provide opportunity for reading in the vast body of literature concerned with entire sanctification and holy living, and (3) give each student an opportunity for personal assessment of his/her position, doctrinally and experientially.

C. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

As a student in this course you will:

1. Study the Biblical and theological bases for the doctrine of Christian holiness.

2. Examine and creatively articulate systematic presentations of the doctrine from the Wesleyan and Biblical theological perspectives. More particularly, this will include, HOLINESS: ITS ...

a) Language	g) Experience
b) Challenge	h) Rejection
c) Basis	i) Evidences
d) Availability	j) Witness
e) Position	k) Misunderstandings
f) Nature	l) Retention
3. Consider the practical applications of the doctrine of Christian holiness and its challenges to holy living in our contemporary society.

D. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. Cognitive Objectives ... upon completion of this course you should know ...
 - a) What are the major Scriptural evidences and illustrations which form the basis for the theology of Christian holiness.
 - b) How to defend and explain the Wesleyan interpretation of Christian experience: its understanding of sin and grace, crisis and process, sanctification and the work of the Holy Spirit, and other doctrinal facets.
 - c) How to discuss and evaluate the experience of sanctification: how it is experienced, when it occurs, what it does and does not do, and related empirical matters.
 - d) How to research and develop a systematic Biblical theology on the focus of this course.
2. Affective Objectives ... what you should feel about what you know. Upon completing this course you should:
 - a) Be able to Biblically assess and defend your own personal position on Christian holiness, doctrinally and experientially.
 - b) Possess an affirmative and appreciative relationship to the worldwide holiness movement as expressed through the ministries of churches, evangelists, schools, and camp meetings, as well as the array of holiness literature.
 - c) Positively affirm, with deep appreciation, the historic commitment of Vennard College to the Wesleyan interpretation of the Biblical truth, thus developing a firm loyalty to this institution.
3. Volitional Objectives ... upon completing this course you should be able to...
 - a) Instruct and challenge others from the Scriptures, theological studies and by personal example, in the truth of Biblical holiness, and its application to a Christian witness in contemporary society.
 - b) Give leadership in holiness revivals, seminars, classes, camp meetings, and other occasions and opportunities.
 - c) Articulate, clearly and succinctly, various holiness truths along with their Biblical evidences.

E. ENABLING ACTIVITIES

The following methods will be used to assist the student in reaching the course objectives:

1. A combination of professorial lectures and classroom discussion.

2. Textbook and collateral readings as assigned.
3. Development of a DOCTRINE OF HOLINESS NOTEBOOK.
4. Scripture memory.
5. A research paper (15-20 pages).

F. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. ATTENDANCE is expected at each class session. The College's attendance policy is always in effect. Participation in class discussions is encouraged and expected. You are expected to take adequate and complete notes, think cogently, and organize your materials in a manner conducive to good study and future use. You are expected to do your own work. Copying another student's material by any method will result in a serious grade penalty.
2. SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION
Two Scripture memory quizzes will be given (see course calendar) for the two groups of Scripture below.

Group One	Group Two
Eph 1:4	Rom 8:7-9
1 Pet 1:15-16	Psa 24:3-4
Deut 6:4-5	
3. READING/REPORTING
The textbooks written by Taylor and Oswalt are required reading. The student will submit two reports of his/her reading which includes the bibliographical data, the number of pages read, a concise statement of the author's purpose, and a brief reaction to the contents (what was best, where you disagree, etc.). The report need not be more than two pages, single-spaced. (See course calendar for due dates.)
4. RESEARCH PAPER
Each student must submit a research paper of 15-20 pages and typewritten according to the standards used by Vennard College. The evaluation of your paper will be based 70% on content, 15% on form (grammar, neatness, etc.), and 15% on your "defense" (personal interview). Married couples are expected to select different topics. The paper must address a specific question directly related to the doctrine of holiness and the student's major. **A PROPOSAL MUST BE SUBMITTED TO AND APPROVED BY THE PROFESSOR BY THE DATE LISTED IN THE COURSE CALENDAR.**
5. NOTEBOOK
The notebook will be graded with reference to research, content, writing form, and documentation. Specific research questions for each lesson are provided on pages attached to this syllabus. **BOOKS WHICH WILL PROVE HELPFUL FOR ANSWERING THE STUDY QUESTIONS MAY BE PLACED ON "RESERVE" IN THE LIBRARY** (of course, many others are to be found in the stacks).

There are 14 lessons, 10 of which must be completed by the student. Lessons 2, 3, 10, and 14 need not be completed or turned in. Neither will they be accepted for "extra credit." Each of the ten lessons will be worth 20 points each.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR NOTEBOOK DEVELOPMENT

- a) All questions are to be answered. Your professor prefers typed materials, but legible handwriting in blue or black ink is acceptable.
- b) Each lesson, question, and answer should be clearly distinct from the others.
- c) Documentation is to be included where appropriate.
- d) Each lesson is to be completed for the first day assigned for that particular lesson. Preparation checks may be taken regularly, which may affect the student's notebook grade.

6. LATE WORK

All work is due at the time appointed on the course calendar. Late work will be graded with a score of zero, except in the case of an excused absence. For planned, excused absences, work is due ahead of time.

G. STUDENT EVALUATION AND GRADING

Memory (10 pts. each reference)	50 pts.
Reading (Taylor 60; Oswald 40)	100 pts.
Research Paper	200 pts.
Notebook	<u>200 pts.</u>
TOTAL POINTS	550

Grading Scale:

A = 94-100	C = 76-78
A- = 91-93	C- = 73-75
B+ = 88-90	D+ = 70-72
B = 85-87	D = 67-69
B- = 82-84	D- = 66
C+ = 79-81	F = 0-65

H. COURSE CALENDAR AND ORGANIZATION

Jan	10	Introduction and orientation
Jan	15	LESSON ONE - THE LANGUAGE OF HOLINESS <u>Aim:</u> To acquaint the student with the various Biblical and theological terms generally used in a study of the theology of Christian holiness.
Jan	17	LECTURE: HISTORY OF "HOLINESS" THOUGHT
Jan	22	LESSON TWO - HOLINESS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT <u>Aim:</u> To survey and summarize the teaching of the Old Testament as it relates to the doctrine of holiness.
Jan	24	LESSON THREE - HOLINESS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT <u>Aim:</u> To trace the teaching on Christian holiness through the New Testament records and observe the unity of the central truths recorded there.

- Jan 29 LESSON FOUR - THE CHALLENGE OF HOLINESS
Aim: To discover the Biblical and theological implications of the doctrine of sin as it relates to the subject of Christian holiness.
- Jan 31, Feb 5 Library and Research day to prepare your proposal for your paper.
- Feb 07 PROPOSAL FOR PAPER IS DUE, MEET WITH PROFESSOR
- Feb 12 LESSON FOUR (CONTINUED)
- Feb 14 CATCH UP DAY ** SCRIPTURE QUIZ #1 **
- Feb 19 LESSON FIVE - THE BASIS OF HOLINESS
Aim: To learn that holiness is the essential element in the nature of God and that all holiness derives from that single source.
- Feb 21 LESSON SIX - THE AVAILABILITY OF HOLINESS
Aim: To discover from Biblical evidence and human experience, that heart holiness is available as the immediate product of the atonement of Christ.
- Feb 26, 28 LESSON SEVEN - THE POSITION OF HOLINESS
Aim: To relate the experience of entire sanctification to other experiences in grace. ** BOOK REPORT #1 DUE (OSWALT) ** [Feb 28]
- Mar 11-12 ATTEND ONE SESSION OF MINISTER'S CONF.
 (NOT INCL. CHAPEL)
- Mar 13, 18 LESSON EIGHT - THE NATURE OF HOLINESS
Aim: To assist the student in qualitatively examining the concept of Christian holiness in both doctrine and life
- Mar 20 LESSON NINE - THE EXPERIENCE OF HOLINESS
Aim: To affirm the reality that one may experience the promised, provided cleansing of the heart, known as entire sanctification. ** SCRIPTURE QUIZ #2 **
- Mar 25 LESSON ELEVEN - EVIDENCES OF HOLINESS
Aim: To recognize the clearly anticipated evidences of the experience of heart cleansing and the life of Christian holiness.
- Mar 27 READING/RESEARCH DAY
- Apr 01 LESSON TWELVE - RETENTION OF HOLINESS
Aim: To give students a foundation for retaining their experiences in grace, and for Christian growth unto maturity.
- Apr 03 READING/RESEARCH DAY

- Apr 08 LESSON THIRTEEN - MISUNDERSTANDINGS OF HOLINESS
Aim: To become aware of the various objections to the theology of Christian holiness due to misunderstandings regarding this doctrine.
 LESSON TEN - THE REJECTION OF HOLINESS
Aim: To learn from Biblical evidence the dangers of resisting and rejecting entering into the experience of heart holiness.
- Apr 10 LESSON FOURTEEN - THE WITNESS OF HOLINESS
Aim: To encourage those who have experienced the cleansing grace of God to give verbal as well as character witness to its reality. **** BOOK REPORT # 2 DUE (TAYLOR) ****
- Apr 15,17 WRITING DAYS

**ALL RESEARCH PAPERS ARE DUE IN THE PROFESSOR'S OFFICE
 NO LATER THAN 5 P.M. ON FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH.**

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS/INTERVIEWS

Apr	22	11:00	11:25	TBA
Apr	24	11:00	11:25	TBA
Apr	29	11:00	11:25	TBA

A SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Taylor, R.S. (1945). *A right conception of sin*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill.
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DOCTRINE OF HOLINESS - Research Questions
(Originally prepared by Dr. Robert L. Morris,
Revised by Dr. Bruce E. Moyer)

LESSON ONE - THE LANGUAGE OF HOLINESS

1. Define the following terms, noting carefully their distinctions: repentance, justification, regeneration, initial sanctification, consecration, and entire sanctification.
2. What are some of the various Biblical and extra-Biblical terms used to describe the work of entire sanctification. Why are there more than just a few?

LESSON TWO - HOLINESS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

3. What are the central teachings about holiness in the Old Testament? Include some key OT references.

LESSON THREE - HOLINESS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

4. What truths about holiness are emphasized by the New Testament authors? Include some key NT references.

LESSON FOUR - THE CHALLENGE OF HOLINESS

5. Define "carnality," "original sin," and "actual sin." Why is it necessary to distinguish between these?
6. Why is a study and understanding of the doctrine of sin essential to a comprehension of the Biblical theology of holiness?

LESSON FIVE - THE BASIS OF HOLINESS

7. According to Scripture, what is the basis for the mandate of holiness for humanity? List several passages which support your answer.
8. What practical implications emerge when one suggests that the holiness of God stands inflexibly as the absolute standard of righteousness?

LESSON SIX - THE AVAILABILITY OF HOLINESS

9. What are the Biblical evidences that holiness is obtainable?
10. What is the relationship of faith to the experience of entire sanctification?

LESSON SEVEN - THE POSITION OF HOLINESS

11. Does God entirely sanctify the soul at the time of justification and regeneration? Support your view.
12. What difficulties are attendant to the theory that one may be entirely sanctified at the time of justification?

LESSON EIGHT - THE NATURE OF HOLINESS

13. Define the terms "holiness," "entire sanctification," "Christian Perfection" and "Perfect Love." What distinctions can you identify?
14. How is it possible for holiness to be instantaneous and complete as well as progressive?

LESSON NINE - THE EXPERIENCE OF HOLINESS

15. Why is there frequently an excessive lapse of time between the experience of the new birth and entire sanctification?
16. What instructions should be given which will lead one into the experience of entire sanctification?

LESSON TEN - THE REJECTION OF HOLINESS

17. If the experience of heart holiness is readily available and obtainable, why is there such objection to it and why do relatively few seek and enter this relationship with God?
18. Since objections are frequently stated in an attempt to contradict the belief that entire sanctification is instantaneous, upon what bases may its instantaneousness be insisted?

LESSON ELEVEN - THE EVIDENCES OF HOLINESS

19. Clearly define the meaning of "the witness of the Holy Spirit."
20. What are the Biblically natural evidences of the reality of experienced holiness?

LESSON TWELVE - THE RETENTION OF HOLINESS

21. Why does the person who is entirely sanctified grow in the Christian life more rapidly than the regenerated person?
22. What are the means of grace by which one may retain the experience of heart purity?

LESSON THIRTEEN - MISUNDERSTANDINGS OF HOLINESS

Respond to each of these theories from a Wesleyan perspective:

23. Entire sanctification in reality is a matter of suppressing that inherited human nature with all its imperfections and liabilities.
24. The teaching of entire sanctification leads to the idea of sinless perfection.
25. Holiness implies that one is no longer tempted.
26. Entire sanctification produces a state of grace from which one may not fall.
27. What the Bible really means by "purity" is a high level of achievement in Christian maturity?

LESSON FOURTEEN - THE WITNESS OF HOLINESS

28. What benefits can be derived from one's testimony to entire sanctification?
29. What language or terminology best articulates one's personal witness to holiness?
What are the points of caution in witnessing to holiness of heart?