

Open to Heb 12

**Pursue**

peace with **all people**,  
and  
holiness, without which  
no one will see **the Lord**

*(Hebrews 12:14)*

1



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It is said that for every single message a pastor preaches, he gives at least 4 messages.

- 1<sup>st</sup> – one he wants/plans to give
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – one he actually gives
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – one he wishes he gave
- 4<sup>th</sup> – one he lives

Honestly, great truth to all of that.

True almost every time. Sometimes the 3<sup>rd</sup> is so hard – wishing did better. Last time in Heb 12 – way it was for me. On top of that...is what I want to live

Found longing to re-give message - want to say it better...maybe Know we, I, need it....so different today, in this is the same msg.

2

## Hebrews Review

Heb 1	Jesus is the message – fully God
Heb 2	Jesus great work for us –fully man
Heb 3-4	Jesus is our Rest
Heb 5-10	Jesus our Great High Priest
Heb 10-12	Need & means of Endurance in Jesus
Heb 12	Serious call to press after
Heb 13	Closing practical exhortations

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3

### Life is about Relationships

Jesus said ... 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment.



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### **Put before you this thought – Life is about relationships**

- essence, satisfaction, purpose
- could use hundreds of illustrations to prove – marriage, parenting, friendships, etc

### **Best proof – Jesus words**

Explained the greatest commandment  
– love God!

4

## Life is about Relationships

Jesus said ... 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart'...this is first  
And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.



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Second commandment, after first priority – love others

### On these – whole Bible hands

- These two are common denominator of whole Bible
- All that is here – explains, guides and encourages these two
- All of life – found these
- All we talk about each week...

### True – every week focus on

- Yet today, especially so – seeing that it is about these two, relationships

..

5

### Pursue

- ↳ Context: Aim of our race
- ↳ Tenaciously Pursuing, progress



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### Calls us to pursue

1<sup>st</sup> – see **Context: Life as a race**  
(12:1, 12-13)

- Sense of understanding what we are running towards, aim, goal

2<sup>nd</sup> – **pursue...idea of doggedly**

- Unrelenting, passion, firm
- Over hurdles, ducking hindrances, around obstacles
- Word used of hunting, even hunting down (bounty hunter)

Today...God is calling you to pursue....

6



Pursue  
all people with peace

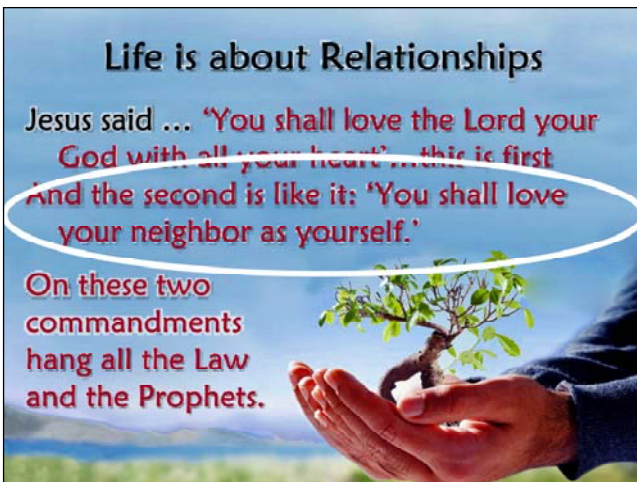
### Pursue people, relationship with

- I reversed word order, on purpose
- Clear in original, could lose in English, think the point is peace, it is not...point is people
- Life is about relationships

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Second commandment, after first priority – love others

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8



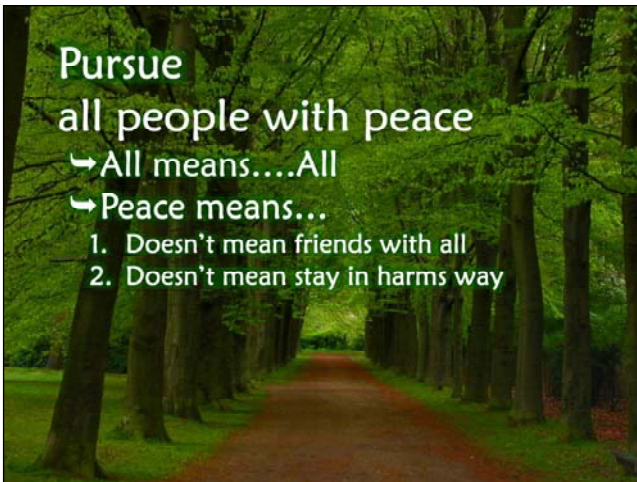
Pursue  
all people with peace  
↳ All means....

Notice...all...all means....

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9



Pursue  
all people with peace  
↳ All means....All  
↳ Peace means...  
1. Doesn't mean friends with all  
2. Doesn't mean stay in harms way

**all people**

- All means....all
- Every person. Christian, not
- Young, old, far, near...peace
- All.

Peace

- talked last time some on, want to expand

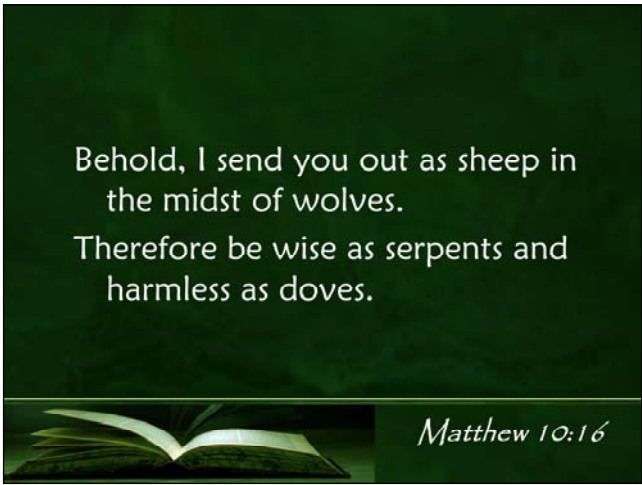
- obvious, not concerned about friends and people "we like"

Doesn't mean...

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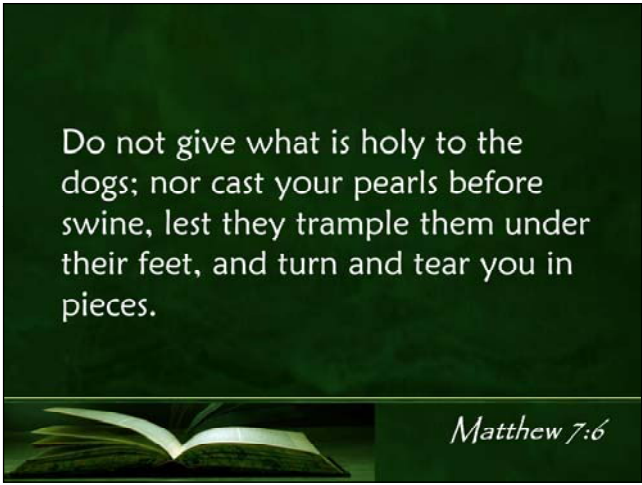
10



Dangerous relational world

Wise...but harmless

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Place of not opening self, holy things

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## Pursue

all people with peace

↳ All means....All

↳ Peace means...

1. Doesn't mean friends with all
2. Doesn't mean stay in harms way
3. Means blessing – praying for (Rom 12:14)

Romans 12  
Church Bibles pg 898

## Romans 12

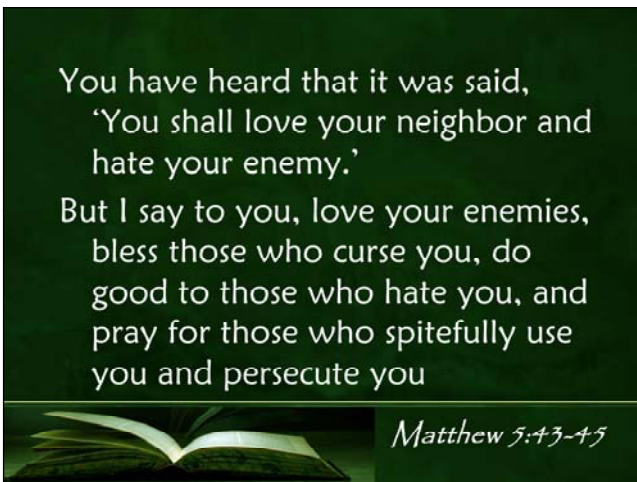
- means praying for

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*(Hebrews 12:14)*

13



You have heard that it was said,  
'You shall love your neighbor and  
hate your enemy.'

But I say to you, love your enemies,  
bless those who curse you, do  
good to those who hate you, and  
pray for those who spitefully use  
you and persecute you

*Matthew 5:43-45*

Not “normal” way of doing things

Love – pray for those who hurt us

If you cannot pray for someone, good  
prayers – you are not at peace

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Rom 12 gives us a good picture of what being at peace with all is

Understanding them. Hurting (hurting people hurt people), blessed – recognize pride

Equality – see as equal before God

Don't repay evil. Don't do what is done to you...

On your part – be at peace. Possible for you to be at peace and them at war...

Don't defend self



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*(Hebrews 12:14)*

Peace...do you have it?  
- None have it perfectly  
- Are to be pursuing. Are you?

And forgive us our debts,  
As we forgive our debtors.



*Matthew 6:12*

Daily I seek to pursue this in my prayers, as Jesus taught us to pray

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*(Hebrews 12:14)*

17

Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.



*Matthew 5:23-24*

If coming to serve, give to Him, He calls us to do this...have to

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18



Pursue  
all people with peace  
and  
Seeing Lord with Holiness

Peace...do you have it?  
- None have it perfectly  
- Are to be pursuing. Are you?

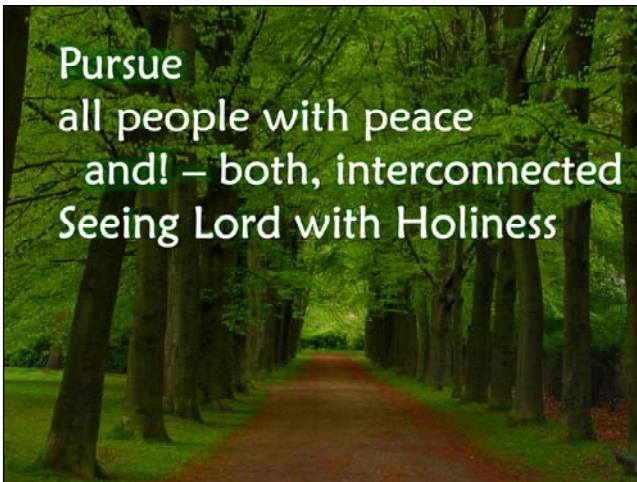
Continue to see highest pursuit  
- seeing the Lord...

First...reminder, notice “and”

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*(Hebrews 12:14)*

19



Pursue  
all people with peace  
and! – both, interconnected  
Seeing Lord with Holiness

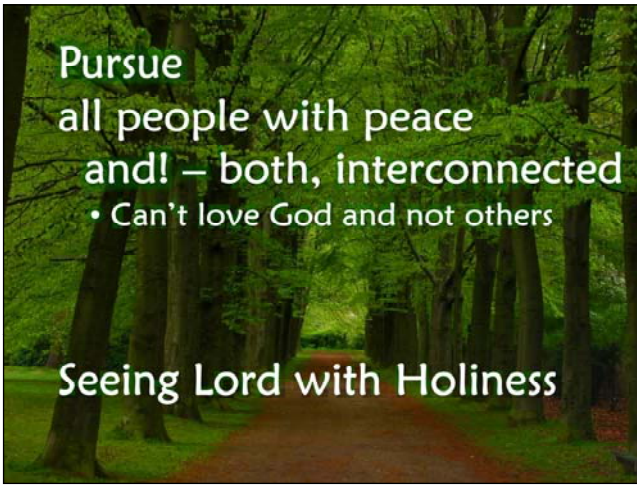
These two pursuits...are connected

Can't have one without other

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20



**Pursue**  
all people with peace  
and! – both, interconnected  
• Can't love God and not others

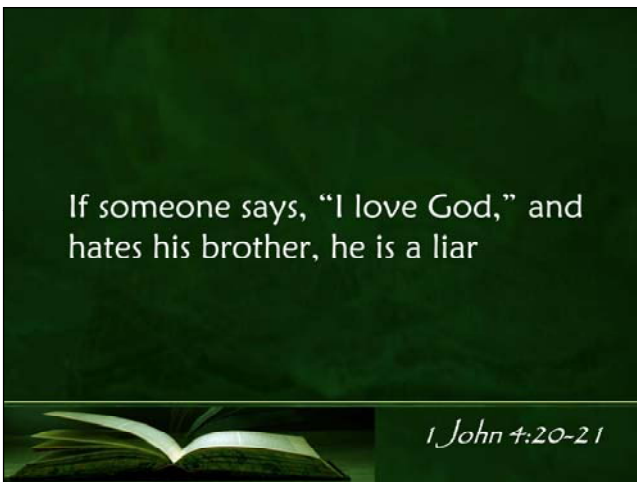
**Seeing Lord with Holiness**

Can't love God and not love people - impossible

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*(Hebrews 12:14)*

21



If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar

*1 John 4:20-21*

Can't be right with God, wrong with man – love how clear this is

Some sitting at home today – saying I love God...just don't like Christians. Impossible. God of their own making.

To love God...forces us to love what He loves – not because we are not hurt, wounded – but love Him and love others – connected

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Can't love others and not God  
 - personally believe very true  
 - Loving God, opens up real love

As loving people and God are connected. So are peace and holiness.

Huge subject – just skimmed  
 Holiness without peace – legalism  
 - Pharisees...ugly  
 - this is a false holiness, is ugly  
 - real holiness – beautiful  
 - think of how people related to Jesus

Peace without holiness – liberalism  
 - can't happen



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So see the connection.

Now...highest pursuit – loving God

## Life is about Relationships

Jesus said ... 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart' ... this is first  
And the second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.



Jesus says – greatest commandment

Life's highest goal, purpose

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*(Hebrews 12:14)*

25

### Pursue

all people with peace  
and  
Seeing Lord with Holiness

↳ Seeing Lord is the aim

↳ Holiness is the means

- Separation to/from
- Holiness is His (v.10)
- What holiness?

### Seeing God

- much to say. Shared more last time
- is what our part looks like – gazing on Him...is all
- heaven is seeing Him.

### Holiness is the means

- defined – separate.
- illustrated – our tooth brushes are holy to us

### Pursue

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*(Hebrews 12:14)*

What holiness?

26

## Salvation's "package deal"

<u>Holiness</u>	<u>Terms</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Sin</u>
We are Holy	Justified	Past	Penalty

Salvation – understand package  
- real salvation includes all

We are holy

- if you are a Christian – you are
- Term Justified – just-as-if-I'd never sinned
- Time – past, when saved... before time
- Sin – saved from penalty of sin

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*(Hebrews 12:14)*

27

To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours

*Saints used over 70 times for Christians*



*1 Corinthians 1:2*

One of most common words in the Bible for Christians – is saints

If you are a Christian – you are a saint - wow

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28

## Salvation's "package deal"

<u>Holiness</u>	<u>Terms</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Sin</u>
We are Holy	Justified	Past	Penalty
We will be Holy	Glorified	Future	Presence

We will be holy

- term – glorified – revealed
- time – future, heaven
- sin presence - gone

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*(Hebrews 12:14)*

29

A highway shall be there, and a  
road, And it shall be called the  
Highway of Holiness.

The unclean shall not pass over it,  
But it shall be for others.

Whoever walks the road, although a  
fool, Shall not go astray.



*Isaiah 35:8*

Consider...wow

### **Pursue**

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*(Hebrews 12:14)*

30

But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.



*Revelation 21:27*

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31

## Salvation's "package deal"

<u>Holiness</u>	<u>Terms</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Sin</u>
We are Holy	Justified	Past	Penalty
We are to be Holy	Sanctified	Present	Power
We will be Holy	Glorified	Future	Presence

We are to be holy

- call to holiness
- term – sanctified. Past tense, yet, is a present thing
- time – present, today
- sin – holy from sin, power

God calls us to

## **Pursue**

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*(Hebrews 12:14)*

32

Therefore, having these promises,  
beloved, let us cleanse ourselves  
from all filthiness of the flesh and  
spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear  
of God.



*2 Corinthian 5:7:1*

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33

Lord, who may abide in Your  
tabernacle? Who may dwell in  
Your holy hill?

He who walks uprightly,  
And works righteousness,  
And speaks the truth in his heart



*Psalms 15:1-2*

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34

Salvation's "package deal"

Holiness	Terms	Time	Sin
We are Holy	Justified	Past	Penalty
We are to be Holy	Sanctified	Present	Power
We will be Holy	Glorified	Future	Presence

So...holiness is a package

Which holiness is it speaking of here? Yes.

- If not a saint – not saved
- without holiness, heaven not coming
- called to holiness now

If not saved...need to be – saint

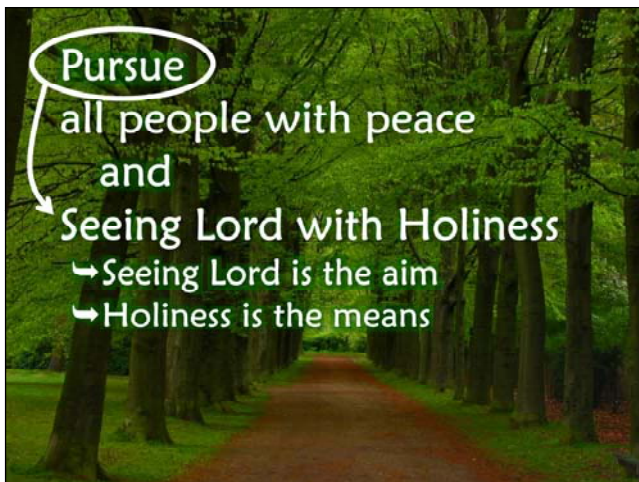
If are saved – need holiness, practically

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35



Question – are you pursuing holiness

Last time – Moses

- could show you all threw Bible

Lets look at Paul...

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36

Paul's Testimony – Phil 3

v.4-6 If life were found in \_\_\_\_\_  
I would have found it...didn't  
v.7-11 Found Excellence of Knowing Christ  
Thus Emptiness of everything else  
v.12-14 Therefore Presently pursuing Christ  
v.15-16 All Christians are going this way  
v.17-19 Otherwise end is destruction

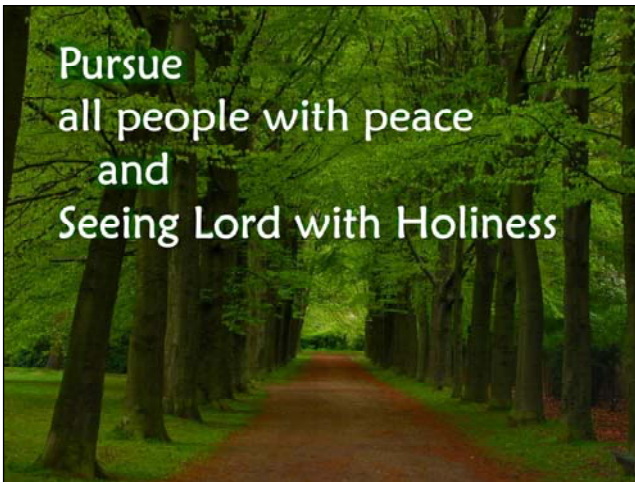
Philippians 3  
Church Bibles pg 898

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37



Pursue  
all people with peace  
and  
Seeing Lord with Holiness

Here is the call.

Emphasis of Hebrews – main point

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38

## Life is about Relationships

Jesus said ... 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart'...this is first  
And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.



Emphasis of life

Life is about relationships...

Nothing else satisfies

Today...get to call you to it again

- different – similar message

- yet...whole Bible is about this

## Pursue

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*(Hebrews 12:14)*