
“Let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.”

2 Corinthians 7:1

Someone asked me recently, “If we have to prioritise one thing in this season of revival and renewal, what would that be?” My answer was, “HOLINESS.” Saint Paul in writing to correct the erroneous teaching and lifestyles in the church of Corinth, exalted the believers to rid themselves of every defilement of body and spirit.

Israel became separated from God because they defiled themselves. They were disobedient to God’s commandments when they worshipped other gods, married foreign women and lived an immoral lifestyle. They had no fear of God.

Michael Reeves, the author of *Rejoice and Tremble*, pointed out that our society have lost God as the proper object of healthy fear, and God has been ousted from every aspect of our lives. Men have assumed the divine throne where we fear men more than we ever fear God. The shifting sands of both morality and reality have put us in an even more erroneous ground. While God in his mercy may not put us through a physical exile today, we can experience spiritual exile from God. We are in danger of becoming

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totally helpless unless we return to our first love.

When we bring holiness to completion in the fear of God, we will experience the full spiritual transformation in our lives—a ‘renovation’ or renewal of our inner person, becoming an authentic disciple of Jesus Christ. That as I have mentioned in my sermon last weekend, will be the best Gospel that you will carry with you wherever you go. “Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ” (Phil 1:27).

We have made some important adjustments in the last one month to our worship venue as the Nave goes through the restoration. I want to thank you for your patience and cooperation in adjusting to the new worship space. I want to especially mention a group of unsung heroes, our volunteers—the carpark marshals, ushers, sidespersons, AV crew and all personnel serving at the SafeEntry and Service stations, they have worked so hard to make this adjustment seamless.

As we enter into the month of February, the church will closely monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation in Singapore, and we are looking to increase the capacity once the situation stabilizes. The safety and health of our members remain our utmost priority in making the necessary considerations.

May the Lord bless your New Year with much hope, grace, peace, and fruitfulness!

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