

# THE GODLY

*A study on one of the most challenging titles God has placed on His offspring. Very simply, to be one of the godly means to be like God in our beliefs, our character, our actions and our attitudes. Get ready to pray!*

## I. Two classes of people:

### A. The definition of **the ungodly**:

1. **Definition**— *To think or act as if God can be ignored, violating His laws, either intentionally or ignorantly, acting opposite to His character.*

### B. The definition of **the godly**:

1. *To be godly is to be like God, from God, of God or pleasing to God.*
2. God has given us “all things” necessary to be godly:

*2 Pt. 1:3 As His divine power has given to us **all things** that pertain to life and **godliness**, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue.*

### C. The word godly in Hebrew:

1. The word *godly* is found four times in Old Testament (KJV):
2. Three times it is translated from the Hebrew *chasiyd*:
  - a. *Chasiyd* is also translated good, holy, merciful and saint)

#### 1. Intimacy with God:

*Ps. 4:3 But know that the LORD has set apart for Himself him who is **godly**; the LORD will hear when I call to Him.*

#### 2. The need of the hour:

*Ps. 12:1 Help, LORD, for **the godly man** ceases! For the faithful disappear from among the sons of men.*

3. Godly people are those who recognize their need to seek God over their failures to be godly:

*Ps. 32: 6 For this cause everyone who is **godly** shall pray to You in a time when You may be found; surely in a flood of great waters they shall not come near him.*

Why is this the case? Go back to verse one and verse seven:

*Ps. 32:1 "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered."*

Then the scripture states: "*For this cause . . .*"

Verse seven reveals our source of strength and security:

*Ps. 32:7 "You are my hiding place."*

4. One time the word *godly* was translated from *elohiym* (also translated God, gods):

*Mal. 2:15 But did He not make them one, having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks **godly offspring**.  
"Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth.*

5. The word *godly* is found eleven times in the New Testament (KJV):
  - a. Seven times from the Greek word *theos*, also translated *exceeding, God, and gods*.
  - b. Three times from the Greek word *eusebos*
  - c. One time from the Greek word *eulabeia* (*pronounced yoo-lab'-i'ah*)

## II. **Five godly traits emphasized in the New Testament:**

### A. godly sincerity:

*2 Cor. 1:12 For our boasting is this: the testimony of our conscience that we conducted ourselves in the world in simplicity and **godly sincerity**,*

*not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God, and more abundantly toward you.*

B. godly sorrow:

*2 Cor. 7:9-11 Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a **godly manner**, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. For **godly sorrow** produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a **godly manner**: what diligence it produced in you, what clearing of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what vehement desire, what zeal, what vindication [KJV—revenge]! In all things you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter.*

1. This is concerning the first epistle to the Corinthians in which Paul reproved them for allowing an incestuous sin to go on in their midst without standing against it.
2. There is a difference between “godly sorrow” and the “sorrow of the world”.
3. It is the difference between “conviction” and “condemnation.”

C. godly fear:

*Heb. 12: 28-29 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and **godly fear**. For our God is a consuming fire.*

*Heb. 11:7 By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, **moved with godly fear**, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith. (NKJV)*

D. godly jealousy:

*2 Cor. 11:2 For I am jealous for you with **godly jealousy**. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.*

1. The word translated jealous is the Greek word *zelos*, also translated *zeal*, *fervent mind*.

E. godly edification

*1 Tim. 1:4 Nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than **godly edification** which is in faith.*

III. **Turn away from ungodliness:**

*2 Tim. 3:1, 5 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come . . . having a **form of godliness** but denying its power. And from such people turn away!*

IV. **Final end:**

*Jud 1:14-15 Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are **ungodly** among them of all their **ungodly** deeds which they have committed in an **ungodly** way, and of all the harsh things which **ungodly** sinners have spoken against Him."*

A. Final end of the ungodly:

*Ps. 1:1-6 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. 3 He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper. 4 The **ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind drives away**. 5 Therefore **the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous**. 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but **the way of the ungodly shall perish**.*

1. Like the chaff the wind drives away
2. Shall not stand in the judgment nor in the congregation of the righteous
3. Shall perish

B. Peter's conclusion:

1. In his epistle Peter revealed that the heavens will pass away with a great noise and the earth will melt with fervent heat, then he concluded:

*2 Pt. 3:11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness.*

- C. Paul's conclusion should be our conclusion:

*1 Tim. 6:6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain.*

- D. Peter also urged that if we pursue godliness we will not be barren, or unfruitful and we will never stumble:

*2 Pt. 1:5-10 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance **godliness**, 7 to **godliness** brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be **neither barren nor unfruitful** in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things **you will never stumble.***