

# The Hope of Holiness

by Elisabeth Elliot

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*Elisabeth Elliot emphasizes the importance of recognizing true holiness and the necessity of faith in seeking forgiveness and renewal from God.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 51:10, 1 Corinthians 13:6

**Topics:** "Pursuing Holiness", "True Forgiveness"

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## Description

Elisabeth Elliot emphasizes the danger of using false humility and openness as excuses for not pursuing holiness, warning against the tendency to justify sin by comparing ourselves to others. She highlights the importance of recognizing sin for what it is and seeking true forgiveness and transformation from the Lord. Elliot encourages believers to come to God in faith, believing in His power to forgive and empower them to do His work.

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## Transcript

The "openness" that is often praised among Christians as a sign of true humility may sometimes be an oblique effort to prove that there is no such thing as a saint after all, and that those who believe that it is possible in the twentieth century to live a holy life are only deceiving themselves. When we enjoy listening to some Christian confess his weaknesses and failures, we may be eager only to convince ourselves that we are not so bad after all. We sit on the edge of our chairs waiting to grasp at an excuse for continuing to do what we have made up our minds long ago to do anyway. The Lord is ready to forgive sin at any moment and to make strong servants out of the worst of us. But we must believe it; we must come to Him in faith for forgiveness and deliverance and then go out to do the work He has given us to do.

"Charity rejoiceth not in iniquity" (1 Cor 13:6 AV). Let us be willing to call iniquity what is really iniquity, rather than to call it weakness, temperament, failure, hangups, or to fall back on the tired excuse, "It's just the way I am."

Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me. (Ps 51:10 AV)

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