

God's idea of perfection is love.



GOD'S IDEA OF PERFECTION IS OFTEN QUITE DIFFERENT FROM OURS. God took a man who persecuted many of the first Christians and made him the apostle Paul. Jesus took a woman who was one of the most notorious harlots in town and made her one of His favorite followers, Mary Magdalene. King David had one of his soldiers killed so he could take the man's wife for himself, but David also became one of the Bible's greatest heroes because he had a great repentance.

God's idea of saintliness is not sinless perfection; it's a sinner who has no perfection, no righteousness of his own at all, but is totally dependent on the love and mercy of God. These are the only saints there are; there are no others.

When we feel so righteous and good, it's really because we are *self*-righteous. We're not closer to God, but closer to ourselves. So let's forget about trying to be perfect, because we never will be. Let's just follow God and do the best we can for Him and others.

The only standard of righteousness or perfection is this: Do you depend totally on God and trust only in Him and His love and His mercy? True righteousness is being full of the Lord and His love, for only He is always right about all things.