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# advance in the word – the defining character of god – 03/26/18

**THE DEFINING CHARACTER OF GOD**

God tells us who He is in His word. He doesn't leave us in the dark. In Exodus chapter 3, He tells Moses to take off his sandals because he is miraculously standing on "holy" sand and dirt. Wherever He is present is holy. Whatever He touches is holy. In Leviticus 11:44 God commands, "For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy." Peter likewise challenges his readers in 1 Peter 1:14-15, "As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior." God is many perfect things: Just, Merciful, Faithful, Loving, All Knowing, Redeemer, Provider etc. etc. However, it is interesting to note that those who sing night and day around the throne do not sing that God is "Just, Just, Just" though He is, or "Faithful, Faithful, Faithful" thought He is ... But in Isaiah 6 and Revelation 4 the living creatures sing day and night that God is "Holy, Holy, Holy!" Even in light of 1 Corinthians 13. Paul tells us that three things will remain, faith - hope - and love. Love is the greatest of the three. Yet, the heavenly creatures do not sing God is "Love, Love, Love" though He is. It is holiness that is singled out as the defining character of God. He is Holy Love, Holy Mercy, Holy Faithful. Then He calls us to allow Him to live in us and live through us. We are to be holy as He is holy. His character should also define us. This will never be an absolute perfecting of our human nature but the divine nature living in us and through us. The fruit of His Spirit fully dwelling in us is to be the defining character of a follower of Jesus Christ.