

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course
An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

THE HOLINESS OF GOD

Lesson 7

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Not only is God good, but He is PERFECTLY good. He is a HOLY God. He is not good simply as measured by the standards of men, but He is goodness itself. He sets all the standards of goodness. All men must be measured by HIS standards for His standards are the only perfect standards. Goodness according to His standards brings blessings without limit and without end. Any departure, even the slightest, brings suffering in increasing measure. That is why God is jealous of His holiness, for He knows that none who sin can be truly and eternally happy, and sin is simply a departing, even in the slightest degree, from perfect holiness.

We want to consider this perfect holiness of God as it is set forth for us in the perfect scriptures that God has given to us.

First: God is holy, not only in conduct but also in character. That is, God doesn't just **do** what is right. He is not right only in the things that He **does**, but He, Himself, is right. His character is eternally fixed and unchangeable.

Exalt ye the LORD our God, and worship at his footstool; for he is holy. Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the LORD our God is holy (Psalms 99:5, 9).

The HOLY God, the Lord our God - He IS holy. *This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all* (1 John 1:5). God is not an admixture of light and darkness. He is not more light and less darkness. No, my friend, God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

In James 1:13 the scripture says. *Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man.* God is not subject to temptations of sinful and lustful and wicked things, as is fallen sinful man. Also, in Malachi 3:6 God declares; *For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.*

It is wonderful to note in a study of God's perfect holiness that God does not change. Was He holy yesterday? Is He holy today? Then He will be holy tomorrow!

In the book of Hebrews, speaking of God the Son, the second member of the trinity, the Bible says. *Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us* (Hebrews 6:17-18).

You see, when you put your faith, your trust, your hope in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ it is not a vain, or empty hope. You are placing your

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hope in one who CANNOT change, who WILL NOT change, in the One who shall not disappoint you in any way.

In Hebrews 13:8 the Bible says, *Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.* The character of God is eternally fixed and unchangeable: He is holy in His conduct and in His character.

Second: Because God is holy. His conduct is ALWAYS and ETERNALLY right. Look in Job 34:10 *Therefore hearken unto me, ye men of understanding: far be it from God, that he should do wickedness; and from the Almighty, that he should commit iniquity.* You see. God will not do wickedness. He will not commit iniquity. The best of men are sinners, but God WILL NOT do wickedness; He WILL NOT commit iniquity. God did not sin yesterday and He will not sin tomorrow. He will never do what is wrong *The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.* (Psalms 145:17).

I realize there have been some good men who have crossed the face of this earth. There have been some great teachers and religious leaders, and countless millions follow various leaders of religions. I imagine Buddha was a pretty good fellow, and Muhammad was probably a decent man, as men go. There have probably been some good priests amongst some bad ones. Confucius had some nice things to say when he wasn't copying Solomon and the wisdom of the Old Testament Hebrew writers.

But the truth of the matter is each and every one of these men had performed SOME works at some time in their life that were not holy. None of them were fully righteous, *for ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God* (Romans 3 23), *If we say that we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us* (1 John 1:8).

So, when I invite you to put your trust in the God of the Bible, the Lord Jesus Christ, I am asking you to trust someone who is far greater than any man, no matter how good the man. I am asking you to trust One whose conduct is ALWAYS and eternally right.

Third: God not only is good but He loves the good. Because He knows that the bad will harm men He hates the bad. The anger of God is His holy hatred of sin in expression. Some people want an excuse to go to hell and they are always charging God with folly. They are always charging God with sin. Such blasphemers say that God is not holy because of His anger.

Yet, His wrath and the judgments that He executes, were He to leave evil unpunished He would not be holy. If you saw a wild animal racing, with slobbering lips and sharp fangs extended, to pounce upon one of your little children, would it be sinful for you to step between your child and that wild beast, and to strike and even slay the animal? Would you not prove the purity of your love by doing anything you could to destroy that beast in order to protect your child? That would not be wrong. That would be right. That would be a perfect exercise of your love for your child.

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Let me ask you something: Is it wrong for God to execute judgment? Is it wrong for God to act in righteous indignation, anger, and wrath against sin and sinners who are seeking to harm, destroy, or kill His people? No, God's anger against that which is evil is a beautiful manifestation of His holiness. *God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day (Psalms 7:11). For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee. The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity (Psalms 5:4-5).*

In Hebrews 1:9, speaking of the person of the Lord Jesus Christ, we read: *Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.* It would be impossible to truly love what is good without truly hating what is evil.

Men, who claim that all things are good, that all thoughts, words, deeds, and actions are good, are not holy men. Such are perverse and perverted men. A perfect holiness demands a perfect love for that which is good and a perfect hatred for that which is evil. The God of the Bible possesses this perfect holiness.

Fourth: God sets the standards of right and wrong for the universe. He is God. It is His universe. He made it. He is free to do what He will, and He alone sets the standard of right and wrong for this universe. These standards are perfect. You could not possibly improve upon them. Any attempt to change them will bring untold suffering.

The problem with man is easily summarized. In his pride he does not believe that God's holy laws for running His universe are right and perfect. As a result, man is continually rebelling against the will of God, transgressing the commands of God. This folly brings untold grief, sorrow and suffering upon himself and upon his planet. If man would submit to the holy and perfect standards of right and wrong established by God, then all the troubles (for which he blames God) would vanish! For example, in Isaiah 8:20 we are told: *To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.* In Psalm 33:4, we read. *For the word of the LORD is right; and ALL His works are done in truth.*

My friend, you may think you have a better idea; you may have a different opinion; you may imagine you have a better way of doing things. But, alas, YOU ARE WRONG if you cross what God said in His word.

Psalms 19:7-10 states. *The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than the honey and the honeycomb.*

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God has given us His word in the Holy Bible. A perfect God must have a perfect, holy, sinless word that is ALWAYS right.

Fifth: Men must be judged by God's standard of holiness and not by their own lowered standards. You may establish within your heart, mind, church, religion, or society a standard of right and wrong. You may keep that standard and trust that having kept that standard you are ready to meet God. Yet, if your standard is not God's standard you are not ready to meet God, you are facing damnation. In Galatians 3:10 we are told: *For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written. Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.*

God gave you a book and told you in that book what He wanted you to do and not to do, and if you don't do EVERYTHING God said to do, and if you don't refrain from doing EVERYTHING God said not to do, you are cursed. *For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all* (James 2:10).

God is SO holy. His holiness is SO perfect, and His demands for holiness are SO great, that the least offense (and only **one**) makes a man a guilty transgressor. **One** sin places man in violation of God's holy law, GUILTY, CURSED before the judgment bar of God. In Matthew 5:21-22 we are told: *Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shall not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.*

You see, the least violation, just one violation, one act, one deed, one thought, one action, that is not holy makes you guilty before God. In John 12:47-48, Jesus Christ spoke these words: *And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.*

My friend, you are a sinner. You have not kept the law of God. You have not obeyed every commandment of God. You have not been perfectly holy in every thought, word, deed, or action since the day you were born. Therefore, you are guilty before Almighty God. You will be judged in the day of judgment by the word of God which you have violated, and it will prove you guilty. What in the world are you going to do?

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Name _____

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1. Explain 1 John 1:5.
2. Explain how God is Love and God executes judgment.
3. Since the Word of the Lord is perfect, what does that say about books that are not included in the Word of God ie. The Book of Jasher, the Book of Macabees?
4. Explain why God cannot lie.
5. Why is it imperative that we live by God's standards?
6. Explain how God is good.
7. What is the purpose of this Lesson?
8. Why is it important for God to stay eternally fixed and unchangeable?
9. What is the key verse of this Lesson?
10. Explain Psalms 19:7-10.
11. Explain the principal of Galatians 3:10.

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True/False

- God executes his judgment on the weak and undeserving.
- Because God created darkness he has just a tiny bit in his character.
- God hates the workers of iniquity.



Scripture memorization Psalms 145:17; Psalms 19:7-10
 (write out these verses on the back of this page) must be in KJV

The Bible says that God sent His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and in His body on the cross at Calvary the Lord Jesus Christ took your sin upon Himself. He took your guilt. He took your iniquity and transgression. He died your death. He suffered your punishment. He paid your penalty to satisfy the wrath and anger of the Holy God. He invites you to come and trust Him, to cast your guilty soul at His feet, and to find in Him mercy and forgiveness. Believing He died for you, rose from the dead, and is able and willing to save you, you can come to Him as a guilty, hell-deserving sinner and trust the Lord Jesus Christ to save you. The Bible says that then God's holiness will be satisfied. This is because someone has died in your place, having paid your penalty completely. The Holy God may FORGIVE you because a Holy Saviour has offered Himself a sacrifice in your place, My friend, you won't be saved any other way. You are guilty and condemned unless you can find a Saviour who has paid for your sins. That Saviour is the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. Oh, do you know Him? Will you trust Him? Will you stake your soul upon His merits, upon His goodness, upon His grace? The Bible says, *With the mouth confession is made unto salvation: with the heart man believeth unto righteousness.*

Will you confess your faith in the righteousness of Jesus Christ today?