

The Holiness of God

An Abridged Study

The Holiness of God

Main Reference – Isaiah 6

Lesson Objective

We seek to receive a revelation of the Holiness of God, and to walk therein.

A Holy God Revealed

Psalm 99:5,9

⁵ Exalt the LORD our God, And worship at His footstool—He is holy.

⁹ Exalt the LORD our God, And worship at His holy hill; For the LORD our God is holy.

Some Characteristics of the Holy God:

- God is love. So, we feel loved. We are secure in His love. And we walk in love towards others.
- God is good. We believe in His goodness toward us. And we walk in goodness (kindness, mercy) towards others.
- God is almighty, all-powerful. We trust in His power to do what may seem impossible. We expect His power to be revealed for us and through us.
- God is wise, all-knowing. We lean on His instruction and follow Him. We rest in His omniscience. We also seek to display His wisdom to others.
- God is Healer. We trust Him to heal us. We also desire for His healing power to be released through us to others.

Class Discussion

How should we desire to know God's Holiness?

Ephesians 1:17

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,...

When there is a REVELATION of His nature. The believer should RESPOND to His nature and become his REPRODUCTION.

Holiness Revealed

Isaiah 6:1-8

*Isaiah had a revelation of the Holy God.

*Isaiah's Condition

*Isaiah's Response

Isaiah's Pre-Revelatory Encounter

Before his temple vision, Isaiah's role was that of a prophet who delivered messages of warning and judgment to the corrupt leaders of Judah and Jerusalem. He prophesied during the reigns of several kings, including Uzziah, and his messages often called for the people to repent and warned them of the consequences of their disobedience.

Isaiah Post Revelatory Encounter (Isaiah 6:9-13)

Class Discussion per scriptures

His Nature Reproduced In Us

1 Peter 1:13-16

- ¹³ Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;
¹⁴ as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance;
¹⁵ but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,
¹⁶ because it is written, "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

Leviticus 19:2

Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

What then is "Holy-Ness"

A state of being...(Exodus 33:18-20)> Exodus 3:14

Question: what are the characteristics of Good-ness?

Consequently:

Holiness" is commonly defined as being separate or set apart; consecrated, devoted, dedicated, sanctified for a purpose. "Holy" becomes adjective for God. God swears by his holiness ([Psalm 89:35](#); [Amos 4:2](#)) is like saying that he swears "by himself." God is supremely and exclusively God. He has no rivals. As uniquely excellent, he is his own category – "There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you" ([1 Samuel 2:2](#)). The Bible calls God "the Holy One

The Holiness of Created Things

Holiness outside of God is a quality and a state that is bestowed. We are Holy, because He calls us Holy. When God calls us to be holy, what He is asking of us is to be "set apart" to Him who is holy.

Consecration in the Old Testament

- **The Tabernacle:** God gave specific instructions in Exodus for the creation and consecration of the Tabernacle and its furnishings, including the Ark of the Covenant, altars, and utensils. The entire structure and its contents were anointed with a holy oil to make them "most holy". **Exodus 30:22-28**
- **Priesthood:** Aaron and his sons were consecrated as priests through a detailed ritual involving washing, specific clothing, sacrifices, and anointing with oil (**Exodus 29**).

The people of Israel were also commanded to consecrate themselves before encountering God at Mount Sinai. **Exodus 19:10**

- **Offerings and Possessions:** The book of Leviticus outlines the consecration of various offerings, such as burnt offerings and grain offerings, which were to be without blemish. **Leviticus 27** details the consecration of firstborn animals, land, and even people who were set apart for God and could not be redeemed.
- **Temple:** King Hezekiah cleansed the Temple, he had the articles King Ahaz had removed prepared and sanctified, as mentioned in **2 Chronicles 29**.

Consecration in the New Testament

- **People:** The New Testament concept of consecration shifts towards a more personal, spiritual dedication. Paul urges believers to present their bodies as a "living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God" (**Romans 12:1**).

Inner purity: The focus moves from external rituals to internal purity of heart and mind, as taught by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount (St. Matthew 5)

- The main point of the Sermon on the Mount is to explain how to live a life of righteousness that fulfills the law and characterizes a citizen of God's kingdom. This involves internal transformation and outward actions, such as loving your enemies, being merciful, and living without hypocrisy, which goes beyond simply following rules and aims for a deeper, more complete way of life.
- Philippians 4:8.
Characteristics expressed in the state of being Holy. true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy

Holiness - God's Glory and Beauty

Exodus 28:2

And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty

Psalms 29:2

Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

Psalms 96:9 Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth.

Man's Response to God Revelation

- We see several other responses or reaction when people meet with a holy God. Jacob awoke from a dream where he heard God speak to him and his response was:
"How awesome (dreadful, fearful, full of reverence) is this place! This is none other than the house of God," (Genesis 28:17).
- When God appeared in the burning bush, God told Moses not to come near, but to take his sandals off (**Exodus 3:4-5**).
- When Moses was shown a glimpse of the glory of God, the back of God, *"Moses made haste and bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped."* (**Exodus 33:23; Exodus**

34:8).

- *"Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped,"* and was told to take his sandals off because the place was holy, because God was there (**Joshua 5:14-15**).

God's Holiness Displayed

- Absolute Moral Purity. Nadab and Abihu violated explicit worship instructions ([Leviticus 16:12-13](#)). Holiness demands approach on God's terms, not human innovation.
- Transcendence in Worship. Fire in the Tabernacle symbolized divine presence ([Leviticus 9:24](#)). Introducing "strange fire" breached sacred space
- Continuity of Holiness. God's character has not altered ([Malachi 3:6](#); [Hebrews 13:8](#)).

God's Justice Demonstrated

Impartiality. Judgment falls on Aaron's own sons—the highest clergy

[Romans 2:11](#) affirms, "there is no favoritism with God."

Moral order is required.

Class Discussion

Safeguarding future generations from repeating irreverence ([Deuteronomy 13:11](#)).

When we emphasize only the goodness and grace of God and do not consider with equal importance His holiness the result is a misconception that God just gives us endless mercy and unending grace. We forget that there is a place where mercy must meet judgment. There is a place where grace meets truth, where goodness meets severity. Yes, it is true that even at this place mercy triumphs over judgment, but that is conditional - that is, if we turn to God and seek His mercy. Otherwise what remains is judgment. (2nd Chronicles 7:14)

Psalm 85:10 Mercy and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed.

Psalm 89:14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before Your face.

Proverbs 16:6 In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity; And by the fear of the LORD one departs from evil.

John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.