



KNOWING GOD

THE HIGHEST PRIORITY IN LIFE

Lesson 5: GOD IS HOLY

*“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory”
Isaiah 6:3*

I. Introduction

II. The meaning of God’s Holiness

Holiness in the Bible means separation from all that is common or unclean, to be set apart.

Ex. 15:11 Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

Ps. 22:3 Yet You are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

R. C. Sproul, Holiness refers to that sense in which God is above and beyond us. It tries to get at His supreme absolute greatness.... He is higher than the world. He has absolute power over the world. The world has no power over Him. Transcendence describes God in His consuming majesty, His exalted loftiness. It points to the infinite distance that separates Him from every creature. He is an infinite cut above everything else.

God's holiness is displayed in the name He gives when Moses asks Him for His name (Ex 3:14-15).

Holiness is a way to understand things that are set aside from common use.

III. The Response to Holiness

We all have a tendency to downgrade the character of God because the holiness of God is terrifying to unholy people.

John Calvin, Hence that dread and terror, which as Scripture uniformly relates, holy men were struck and overwhelmed whenever they beheld the presence of God. When we see those who previously stood firm and secure so quaking with terror, that the fear of death takes hold of them, nay, they are, in a manner, swallowed up and annihilated, the inference to be drawn is that men are never duly touched and impressed with a conviction of their insignificance, until they have contrasted themselves with the majesty of God (Institutes, Ch. 1)

Example of Isaiah

Isaiah 6:5 And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

Isaiah 6:3 And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"

Example of Job

Job 42:5-6 I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.

Job 40:4 Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth.

IV. Holiness and Prayer

Matt. 6:9 Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name."

V. Holiness and Repentance

2 Cor 7:10, For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

Remorse is sorrow in which someone is truly sorry for what they did, although they never really see their sin as God sees it.

Repentance requires us to know and understand the holiness of God.

VI. The only way to approach the Holy God

John 5:24 “Truly, truly I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me” – His holy Word, the holy God, through His holy gospel – “has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.”

VII. Conclusion

Hab. 2:20 But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Ps. 5:5 The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers.

Quote, A. W. Tozer, Is there anything in your life that is doubtful or you cannot decide if it is good or bad? Away with it – there cannot be so much as a cloud between you and God.