

Attributes of God

(Holiness, part 2)

The first 4 verses of Isaiah 6 are describing the vision that Isaiah saw of God on His throne. The angelic beings in a threefold repetition call out one to another “holy, holy, holy” in honor and praise describing the Goodness of God and the attribute that all other attributes of God flow from. His holiness is the only attribute that is raised to the threefold repetition. In verse 5 we begin to see the response of Isaiah to the holiness of God. His response was one of reverence and awe and a true understanding of who he really was in comparison to the holy God. Only when we begin to understand who He is, then and only then can we truly begin to see who we are.

Examples of people and God’s holiness

- **Isaiah 6:1-7**- Isaiah see the holiness of God
- **Luke 5:1-11**- Peter called by Jesus to follow Him
- **Exodus 19-20**- God on Mt Sinai
- **Leviticus 10:1-10**-Nadab and Abihu
- **2 Samuel 6:1-7**-Uzzah touches the ark
- **Mark 4:35-41**-Jesus calms the storm
- **Matthew 17:1-13**-The transfiguration
- **Revelation 1:9-18**- John’s vision of the Son of Man

The response to God’s holiness is reverence, awe, fear, and humility. There is a declaration and acknowledgment of the unworthiness and uncleanness of the person in comparison to the holy God. Until we see and understand how vast the gulf is between us and God, we will be significantly lacking in our understanding of election, salvation, adoption as sons, redemption, our sins, forgiveness, sanctification, trust, and prayer. All aspects of our understanding of the Bible and how we live our lives hinges on our understanding of the holiness of God.

- *If you don’t delight in the fact that your Father is holy, holy, holy, then you are spiritually dead. You may be in a church. You may go to a Christian school. But if there is no delight in your soul for the holiness of God, you don’t know God. You don’t love God. You’re out of touch with God. You’re asleep to his character. **R. C. Sproul***
- *The failure of modern evangelicalism is the failure to understand the holiness of God. **R. C. Sproul***

Only when we begin to understand who He is and understand His holiness, then and only then can we truly begin to see who we are and how unworthy and unclean we are even to be in His presence. This brings us to a place of humble worship and adoration that the holy God would show any kindness, grace, or mercy upon unholy creatures let alone lay His life down for unholy rebel creatures and desire for them to be forever in His holy presence. Understanding who He is and in comparison, who we are is a key to sincere, truthful, reverent worship as well as thanks, trust, and awe. Understanding the holiness of God and sanctification are inseparable. God’s holiness is vital to all aspects of our lives and should be reflected on and leaned upon every day. Let us be like the seraphim who call out without ceasing “holy, holy, holy!”