

# THE HOLINESS OF GOD

## I. THE HOLINESS OF GOD

### 1. We Must Understand what Holy is?

1. “But like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy’” (1 Pet. 1:15-16).
2. Holiness is the Transcendence of God—above and beyond us as humans.
3. God is “Holy, Holy, Holy” (Is 6:3) and not just “love, love, love” or “law, law, law.”
4. We must revere holiness in order to understand God.

### 2. We Must See God as He Really Is.

1. We must not make God in “our image” but allow Him to remake us into “His image.”
2. Some people seek to “feel” God without bothering to “know” or “obey” Him.
3. “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent” (Jn 17:3).

### 3. We Must Stand in Awe of God.

1. In one sense, God does not have “attributes” that can be separated from one another.
2. God's name is “holy” (Is 57:15); He is “otherness” and “differentness” from us.
3. He follows no standard because He Himself IS the standard!
4. We must be filled with wonder to see such perfection and unity.
5. God is never at “cross purposes” with Himself—all He does is right, just and true.
6. Holiness is the characteristic that separates Him from all of creation—He is Creator and we are the creation.
7. However, God relates His nature to us in “human terms” (anthropomorphisms).
8. Holiness defines and empowers all attributes of God—love, righteousness, truth, etc.

### 4. We Must Be Holy, for He is Holy.

1. This is our goal as those made in “His image” yet we have failed to seek it fully.
2. Holiness is a position, a practice and a process:
  1. Holiness is not the way to Christ; *Christ is the way to holiness!*
  2. The Christian is not ruined by living in the world, *but by allowing the world to live in him!*
  3. Holiness is not only what God gives me, but also it is what I manifest in the life that God has given me.

### 5. We Must Never Exchange Holiness for Cheap, Fake Spirituality.

1. Spirituality can be faked and bragged about—holiness cannot.
2. Holiness is essential in the presence of God:
  1. without holiness we cannot see God (Heb 12:14)
  2. Our hearts must be blameless in holiness before God (1 Thess 3:12, 13).
  3. We are to be perfect in holiness in the fear of God (2 Cor. 7:1).
  4. We are to be partakers of His holiness (Heb 12:10).

## II. SIX HOURS (2)

### 1. The Final Three Hours

1. Unnatural Quietness and Darkness from Noon to 3:00 PM.
2. Texts describing the last three hours:
  1. Matt 27:45-50
  2. Mk 15:33-37
  3. Lk 23:44-46
  4. Jn 19:28-30

### 2. Four More Statements on the Cross:

1. **5<sup>th</sup> Statement:** “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” Interpreted, this means, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” (Matt. 27:46; Mk 15:34).
  1. God and Jesus were separated.
  2. Separation from God was a deeper wound than any punishment man could inflict.
  3. The cry shouts out about the depth of man's fall, his lostness, and his helplessness.
  4. Jesus conquered sin and death (Heb. 2:14-18).
  5. Christians no longer need to fear Satan, sin, or even death because they are now defeated (1 Cor. 15:21-26, 51-58).
2. **6<sup>th</sup> Statement:** “I thirst” (Jn 19:28, 29)
  1. The “Water of Life” was thirsty (Jn 6:51-58; Ps 69:21).
  2. Jesus did not use His divinity to override His humanity.
  3. “But everyone who saw him was even more horrified because He suffered until He no longer looked human” (Is 52:14).
  4. The Jews looked for a Messiah but the rejected & crucified Him when He came.
3. **7<sup>th</sup> Statement:** “It is finished!” (Jn 19:30)
  1. The task is done!
  2. God can now be just when justifying sinners!
  3. The Lamb of God took away the sin of the world!
  4. It will take an eternity to comprehend what occurred that day at the Cross.
  5. What man could not finish, Jesus did.
    1. The mouth of Satan was shut (Rev. 12:9-11)
    2. The Law of Moses was nailed to the Cross.
    3. The New Law of Christ is in effect (Heb 8:6-13; 9:12-18; 10:4-14, 18-31)
4. **8<sup>th</sup> Statement:** “Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.” Having said this, He breathed His last” (Lk 23:46).
  1. Speaking in a loud voice, Jesus wanted all to hear!
  2. He commended His spirit to God—not just body, breath, but everything!

### 3. Jesus spoke more of being glorified than being crucified.

1. “Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You” (Jn 17:1).
2. “Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was” (Jn 17:5).
3. God transformed the instrument of death—the Cross—into an instrument of life.
4. It is the divine magnetism drawing all men unto Himself.
5. The person worthy of glory gave it back to the father. So should we (Gal 6:14).

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. How can we say that God does not have “attributes”?
2. What is the difference between “holiness” and the popular understanding of “spirituality”?
3. Did God forsake Jesus while He was on the cross? Explain.
4. Let us review the last four recorded statements of Jesus while He was on the cross. What was the significance of each one?
5. Why is it important that Jesus' death not only conquered sin but also conquered death?
6. Why did so many obey the gospel on the Day of Pentecost?