

The Holiness of God and Depravity of Man - 10/27/19

TEXT – Exo 33:18-23 *And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory. 19 And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee,*

Exo 34:35 *And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone: and Moses put the vail upon his face again, until he went in to speak with him.*

INTRO – Two things that every human being absolutely must come to understand are the holiness of God and the sinfulness of man.

What does it mean that God is holy?

The Hebrew word for holy is “qodesh” and means “apartness, set-apartness, separateness, sacredness”

In the New Testament, the word for holy is “hagios” and means set apart, reverend, sacred, and worthy of worship.”

Holy means the pure, loving nature of God, separate from evil.

Psa 145:17 *The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.*

How do we know what is holy?

God has created us in intellectual and moral likeness.

III. How do we judge good music? We all have our biases. We must have an element of sanctity to recognize God's holiness.

The Bible reveals the holiness of God:

Adam talked with God in the garden

Jacob met God at Piniel - Gen 32:30 . . . for I have seen God face to face

Isaiah had a vision of God – 30 times he speaks of “the Holy One”

The Holiness of God

I. Testimony of the Prophets

Isa 6:1-5 *In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.*

Rev 4:1-8 . . . *And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night saying Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come*

Hab 1:12-13 *Art thou not from everlasting, O LORD my God, mine Holy One? we shall not die. O LORD, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction. 13 Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?*

II. Witness of the Four Beasts

Rev 4:8 *And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.*

III. Verification of the Scripture

Lev 11:45 *For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.*

Lev 20:26 *And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.*

Psa 99:5 *Exalt ye the LORD our God, and worship at his footstool; for he is holy.*

IV. Manifestation of Jesus

Acts 3:13-14 *The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go. 14 But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;*

Mark 1:24 *I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.*

Acts 4:27 *For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,*

The Depravity of Man

Psa 51:5 *Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*

Mark 7:21-23 *For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, 22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: 23 All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.*

Isa 59:1-2 *Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.*

John 3:19 *And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.*

Man is expected to be holy he misses the mark!

If we understand who God is, and catch a glimpse of His majesty, purity and holiness, then we are instantly aware of the extent of our own sin.

When we recognize that there's no way that we could ever stand before God apart from **grace we humble ourselves and seek His help.**

One of the great mottos of the Protestant Reformation was the Latin phrase *sola gratia*—by grace alone. Its roots are in the theology of Augustine of Hippo, who used it to call attention to the central concept of Christianity, that our redemption is by grace alone, that the only way a human being can ever find himself reconciled to God is by grace.

We have a holy God whose image we bear and whose image it is our fundamental responsibility as human beings to mirror—yet we are not holy.

1 Pe 1:15-16 *But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.*

Jer 17:9 *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*

Yet God uses fallen impaired men to carry out His purposes!

Moses – Murderer

David – Adulterer

Paul – a persecutor

The portrait that we get in the Scriptures of man in his fallen condition is that he is utterly and thoroughly infected by sin in his whole person. In other words, sin is not an external blemish, but something that goes to the very core of our being.

God sanctifies all those whom He saves

Every serious believer grows in his sanctification.

The keys to a holy life:

Humility

Confession of sin

Obedience by faith

Total surrender to God

CONCL –