

SESSION 7

GOD OF HOLINESS

God&Me&Us

Focus Point

God is holy and pure and hates sin. He wants us to be holy just like Him.

The Key Truths

Using scriptures that describe how completely different God is to us, this episode paints a big picture of the unreachable holiness of God. We look at how perfectly pure He is and, as a result, how sin cannot enter His presence, and that His wrath, or holy anger, is directed at sin.

Finally, we also marvel that, as holy as God is, His desire is to save each and every person who is spiritually lost, and that He does this for His own pleasure.

Scriptures to Consider

- God's holiness is not to be taken lightly.

Numbers 4:15 (NIV) - *"After Aaron and his sons have finished covering the holy furnishings and all the holy articles, and when the camp is ready to move, only then are the Kohathites to come and do the carrying. But they must not touch the holy things or they will die. The Kohathites are to carry those things that are in the tent of meeting."*

- God was obliged to act when His commands were ignored; His holiness demanded the response to Uzzah. There is never any compromise with God.

2 Samuel 6:7 (ESV) - *"And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah, and God struck him down there because of his error, and he died there beside the ark of God."*

- There is no-one in the universe who can even begin to be like God. He is supreme in everything.

Exodus 15:11 (ESV) - *"Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?"*

- Because sin corrupted human nature at the very first sin in the Garden, our hearts are naturally deceitful and wicked.
- Jeremiah 17:9 (NLT)** – *"The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?"*
- Even though John had spent three years in Jesus' company on earth, when he saw Jesus in all His glory, he "fell at His feet as though dead".
- Revelation 1:17 (NLT)** – *"When I saw him, I fell at his feet as if I were dead. But he laid his right hand on me and said, "Don't be afraid! I am the First and the Last."*

Group Discussion Questions

Question 1: Why does God, who is completely loving, send people to Hell?

Answer: Because God is completely pure and holy, nobody can come into His presence without having accepted Jesus as Lord and Saviour; if He allowed sinful people into His presence, He would no longer be pure and holy.

We read in Romans 3:23 (ESV) that "*all have sinned and fall short of the glory [or standard] of God.*" If the pass mark for an exam is 50%, someone who gets 2% will fail and so will someone who gets 49%. Neither of them reached the required standard. God's standard is perfection which none of us can reach. However, we read in John 3:16 (NIV) that "*God so loved the world that He gave His only Son...*" (emphasis added).

God has made a way for sinners to come into His presence: when someone turns from their sin (repents) and accepts the righteousness that only Jesus can give, He sees the righteousness of Jesus and not our own "filthy rags" as Isaiah called our own righteousness.

Question 2: How will the way I live my life change, when I realise how holy God is?

Answer: When we realise just how holy and perfect God is, we develop a healthy fear of the Lord. Think of it as a lion roaring in the wild. If you are the small buck, you will tremble and freeze with fear. You know that you may be eaten any moment. However, if you are the lion cub, you will draw close and know that you are protected by that same power. The fear of God should cause us to draw close to Him, but also to obey and listen to what He says. This way we are safe.

Word of the Day

Holy

Verse of the Day

"There is none holy like the Lord: for there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God." - 1 Samuel 2:2 (ESV)

Notes