



**Sunday April 08, 2018**  
**The Holiness of God Series**  
**Part 1 : Holy God (Agios O Theos)**

**Introduction**

Today we begin a 4-part series on The Holiness of God.

In Part-1: Holy God - introduce the holy nature of God,

Part-2: Holy, Holy, Holy - where we look further into the holiness of God,

Part-3: His Holiness in Me - where we learn how holiness is worked in us,

Part-4: In the beauty of Holiness - where we focus on us relating to a holy God in worship and ministry.

*'Agios O Theos'* Greek for Holy God

## **The Revelation Of A Holy God**

**Psalm 99:5,9**

**5 Exalt the LORD our God, And worship at His footstool—He is holy.**

**9 Exalt the LORD our God, And worship at His holy hill; For the LORD our God is holy.**

There are various facets to the nature of God.

We know that:

- God is love. So we feel loved. We are secure in His love. And we walk in love towards others.
- God is good. So we believe in His goodness toward us. And we walk in goodness (kindness, mercy) towards others.
- God is almighty, all-powerful. So we trust in His power to do what may seem impossible. We expect His power to be revealed for us and through us.
- God is wise, all-knowing. So we lean on His instruction and follow Him. We rest in His omniscience. We also seek to display His wisdom to others.
- God is Healer. So we trust Him to heal us. We also desire for His healing power to be released through us to others.



- And like this there are many other facets to the character and nature of God.
- God is holy.

Our desire must be to know Him. But we desire to know Him according to the revelation of the Holy Spirit and not as an intellectual, theological, academic pursuit.

**Ephesians 1:17**

**that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,**

There is the REVELATION of His nature.

There is a RESPONSE to His nature.

There is also the call to have His nature REPRODUCED in us and REVEALED through us. He teaches us to be like Him.

A correct REVELATION of His nature, will evoke the right RESPONSE from us toward God and draw us to the place where His nature is REPRODUCED in us and REVEALED through us.

Every facet of His nature is equally important. To emphasize one aspect of His nature while ignoring others, will not give us a true picture of our God.

**Isaiah 6:1-8**

**1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord ( Adonai) sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.**

**2 Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.**

**3 And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD (Jehovah) of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!"**

**4 And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.**

**5 So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because 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."**

**6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar.**

**7 And he touched my mouth with it, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged."**

**8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."**



Isaiah had a revelation of the holy God.

In Verse 1, he sees God as Adonai, meaning sovereign, seated on His throne, high, exalted. The "train of His robe filled the temple". In ancient times, the robes the kings wore, and the train of their robe - the length of the robe that flowed behind them, often carried by attendees - displayed their royalty, splendor, glory and honor.

Not just His temple, but the whole earth is full of His glory - all who He is, put on display.

The seraphim proclaim "holy, holy, holy" is Jehovah, the Eternal, Self-existent One. This is important because the very nature of Jehovah is that He is holy.

His response was first to become aware of his own condition. There is nothing more fearsome as coming before a Holy God. How can mortal, unclean man come before an absolutely perfect God.

The word for "undone" has two ideas to it. One is to be brought to silence, dumb, made silent. The other is to fail, perish, be destroyed. To be undone is to be brought to a place where there is nothing more I can say and nothing more I can do. This is the end of me.

The revelation of God's holiness brings about a recognition of our own uncleanness, our own sinfulness, our own weaknesses. A revelation of God's holiness strips us of all self, of all confidence in our own selves. It also causes us to stand in awe and reverence before God.

Then God Himself provides the cure. It is only God who can. Our own goodness or righteousness can never qualify. A revelation of God's holiness convinces us that our standing before Him can only be a gift He gives to us, and it is an expression of His grace.

And then Isaiah hears God's heart seeking for someone He can send. Isaiah responds and is then commissioned to go. It seems to indicate here that all of us should have our "calling to ministry" birthed out of revelation of God's holiness. Isaiah throughout his ministry, often (about 27 times) refers to God as "the Holy One of Israel" or "the Holy One". A revelation of God's holiness shows us what a great thing God does when He shares His heart with us and engages us as His partners on His mission here on earth.



## His Nature Reproduced In Us

**1 Peter 1:13-16**

**13** Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

**14** as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance;

**15** but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,

**16** because it is written, "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

**Leviticus 19:2**

"Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

God desires for His nature to be reproduced in us and revealed through us. He has made us partakers of His divine nature (2 Peter 1:4), for this reason.

What we seek to achieve in this study is to receive a revelation of the holiness of God, a revelation of God who is holy.

As we do this, there will be a response in us and from us towards the holiness of God. Things in us that are displeasing to Him will find the revelation of God's holiness repulsive. But we must embrace the revelation of His holiness, so that what is contrary to His holy nature will depart from us. On the other hand, eternity is set in us. There will be the response in our hearts that is drawn towards His holiness. We will find reverence and awe flood our hearts, as we grow in our revelation of our holy God.

Ultimately, as we gaze upon Him, as we receive a correct revelation of His holiness, we will be changed into that same image. His holiness will be reproduced in us and will be revealed through us. We will walk in holiness.

## Holiness - What is this?

Holiness

is absolute sinlessness, because anything that is sin, cannot be a part of holiness.

is absolute purity, because anything impure or unclean, cannot be part of holiness.

is absolute truth, because anything that is untruth or a lie, cannot be part of holiness.

is absolute faithfulness

is absolute justice (or righteous)



is absolute love, because anything of hate, contradicts holiness. Love does not rejoice in sin (1 Corinthians 13:6).

is absolute goodness, because anything unkind

is absolutely sacred, because anything profane cannot be a part of holiness.

is absolute perfection.

Holiness is Godlikeness. This is God. He is holy.

Holiness is the very nature of God. God is holy. Holiness is the very core of God's nature and every other facet of who He is mingled with this aspect of holiness. This is who He is.

### ***The Holiness of Created Things***

Holiness outside of God is a quality and a state that is bestowed. We are holy, because He calls us holy. When God calls us to be holy, what He is asking of us is to be "set apart" to Him who is holy.

Hebrew holy

Adjective: qadosh (Strong's H6918), "holy, pure". From its usage we derive the meaning of being "devoted, dedicated, sanctified" for a particular purpose.

Verb: qadesh (Strong's H6942), or qadash (Strong's H6942), "to be holy; to sanctify."

Noun: qodesh (Strong's H6944), "holiness; holy thing; sanctuary."

Greek holy

In the Greek, the word 'hagios' (Strong's G40), meaning "holy", and its derivatives, e.g. hagioismos (Strong's G38), translated "holiness" correspond to the Hebrew "qadosh". Believers are called "hagioi", "saints," i.e., "sanctified" or "holy" ones.

This holiness that is the nature of God, now being bestowed upon us, calls us to a place of being set apart, devoted, dedicated, and sanctified unto Him. It is important to always remember, that this holiness being referred to is the essences of God, the nature of God. It is therefore something higher than being outwardly clean, externally pure, or appearing sacred, and pious. It first and foremost has to do with the inner quality and state of being holy unto God. It has to do with inner God-likeness, or godliness. It then manifests outwardly in what is seen, said and done.

## **Holiness - God's Glory And Beauty**

**Exodus 28:2**

**And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty.**



From its usage here, we get a sense of what holiness is. God wants holy garments for the priest. For what purpose. To display glory and beauty.

In many places in Scripture we see the term "in the beauty of holiness".

**Psalm 29:2 Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

**Psalm 96:9 Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth.**

The arm of the Lord or the hand of the Lord is God's power.

The eye of the Lord is God's omniscience.

Similarly we see other metaphors of various attributes of God in human terms. What is interesting is that we see holiness associated with beauty.

The beauty, the grandeur, the splendor of God is called holiness.

Holiness is God revealing and expressing His beauty, His glory, His splendor, His grandeur, His magnificence, His perfections, His excellence.

## **How Holy Is He?**

**Exodus 15:11**

**"Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders?"**

**1 Samuel 2:2**

**"No one is holy like the LORD, For there is none besides You, Nor is there any rock like our God.**

God's holiness is infinite, perfect, absolute, unattainable, fearful, unapproachable and beyond what we are able to grasp, comprehend and explain. Our words can never sufficiently describe His holiness.

**Proverbs 9:10**

**"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.**

The knowledge of the Holy One is the fear of the Lord.

To know Him in His holiness, to have a revelation of His holiness, is really the fear of the Lord.

Only the Holy Spirit can impart to us the knowledge of the Holy One.



The holiness that all created beings - people and angels - have is what has been endowed, given or in some way formed in them. But God, is by very nature holy. His holiness is not acquired or developed. This is who He is.

All holiness is measured in relation to Him. He is the absolute, perfectly holy One.

## **The Holiness And Goodness of God**

**Romans 2:4**

**Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?**

**Romans 11:21-22**

**21 For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either.**

**22 Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.**

**James 2:13**

**For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.**

When we emphasize only the goodness and grace of God and do not consider with equal importance His holiness, we often end up with a misconception that God just gives us endless mercy and unending grace. We forget that there is a place where mercy must meet judgment. There is a place where grace meets truth, where goodness meets severity. And yes it is true that even at this place mercy triumphs over judgment, but that is conditional - that is, if we turn to God and seek His mercy. Otherwise what remains is judgment.

**Psalm 85:10 Mercy and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed.**

**Psalm 89:14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before Your face.**

**Proverbs 16:6 In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity; And by the fear of the LORD one departs from evil.**

**John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.**

## **Meeting With A Holy God**

We have seen Isaiah's reaction in having a vision of God.



We see several other responses or reaction when people meet with a holy God.

Jacob awoke from a dream where he heard God speak to him and his response was: *"How awesome (= dreadful, fearful, full of reverence) is this place! This is none other than the house of God,.."* (Genesis 28:17).

When God appeared in the burning bush, God told Moses not to come near, but to take his sandals off (Exodus 3:4-5).

When Moses was shown a glimpse of the glory of God, the back of God, *"Moses made haste and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshiped."* (Exodus 33:23; Exodus 34:8).

*"Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped,"* and was told to take his sandals off because the place was holy, because God was there (Joshua 5:14-15).

Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1:28), Daniel (Daniel 10:8-9), John (Revelation 1:17) and others fell to their face as dead men.

A true revelation of the holiness of God will evoke a similar response from us. We will lay low, and become undone, with nothing more to say and nothing more to do.

### **Prayer & Ministry Time**





## LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

**Sunday April 08, 2018**  
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This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

### **Preparation**

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at [apcwo.org/sermons](http://apcwo.org/sermons). Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

### **Welcome**

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

### **LISTEN to God's Word**

Read the following Scripture passages: *Psalm 99:5,9; Isaiah 6:1-8; 1 Peter 1:13-16*

### **INVESTIGATE God's Word Together**

Discuss these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

- 1, Discuss Isaiah's vision and insights we gain from his encounter with the holiness of God*
- 2, What is holiness, as seen in God's nature? What is holiness, as seen in people who He calls to be holy?*
- 3, Discuss the proper understanding we need to maintain of the holiness and goodness of God.*

Pray for each other for a greater revelation of God's holiness.



If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

**FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey**

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

**ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another**

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

*1, families to be protected and strengthened*

*2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*

Close by thanking God together.



## USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

**YOUTUBE:** <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

**WEBSITE:** <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

**CHURCH:** <https://apcwo.org>

**FREE SERMONS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

**FREE BOOKS:** <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

**JESUS CHRIST:** <https://examiningjesus.com>

**BIBLE COLLEGE:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

**E-LEARNING:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

**WEEKEND SCHOOLS:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

**COUNSELING:** <https://chrysalislife.org>

**MUSIC:** <https://apcmusic.org>

**MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP:** <https://pamfi.org>

**CHURCH APP:** <https://apcwo.org/app>

**CHURCHES:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

**WORLD MISSIONS:** <https://apcworldmissions.org>