

**Words That Matter
The Holiness of God
Selected Scripture**

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God is the absolute quintessence of moral excellence, infinitely perfect in righteousness, purity [and] rectitude....we cannot grasp the true meaning of divine holiness by [simply] thinking of someone or something very pure and then raising the concept to the highest degree we are capable of . God's holiness is not simply the best we know infinitely bettered. We know nothing like the divine holiness. Only the Spirit of the Holy One can impart to the human spirit the knowledge of the holy....Holy is the way God is. To be holy He does not conform to a standard. He is that standard.

A.W. Tozer; The Knowledge Of The Holy

What does it mean to say that G o d is h o l y?

It means that God is:

- distinct, s e p a r a t e, unique, t r a n s c e n d e n t - He is b e y o n d us (1 Sam 2:2)
- absolutely p u r e - He is m o r a l l y perfect (Hab 1:13a)

His holiness is not something a d d e d to His nature, but it is w h o He i s! (James 1:13,17; 1 John 1:5)

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Every revelation of God in the scriptures is a revelation of

God's holiness - for example:

- His work of Creation (Gen 1:31)
- His Law (Psalm 19:7; Rom 7:12)
- His Judgment (Gen 18:25; Psalm 9:8; 2 Tim 4:8)
- His dwelling place - Heaven (Revelation 4:2-11)
- His obedient Son, Jesus Christ (Luke 1:35; Matt 27:54; Mark 1:40-41; Heb 7:26-27; John 14:30)

What does God's holiness mean in my life?

(Isa 6:1-13; John 12:36-41)

It means that we require:

- an encounter with God and His holiness (vs 1-3)
- clarity of our absolute depravity (vs 4-5)
- to receive His provision for our sin (vs 6-7)
- to be transformed to obey and serve the Lord (vs 8)

Is God's call for me to "*be holy as He is holy*"

unrealistic?

It requires that:

- we understand that we have been set apart (made holy) by the finished, redemptive work of Christ (Heb 2:10-11; 10:10; 13:12; 1 Peter 1:15-16)
- as true followers we must become serious about our pursuit of Jesus Christ (Matt 6:24,33; John 12:26; 14:23-24; Phil 3:7-11)
- we stop comparing ourselves to others and seek to conform to the model Christ has set before us (2 Cor 3:18; 11:1; Gal 6:4; John 20:22)
- we begin to treasure the truth that there is no better way to use our time than to use it to honor God. (Eph 5:8-9, 15-16; Col 1:10; Heb 10:12-14; 1 Peter 2:11-12)

How are we to live a holy life?

The person who begins to glimpse God's holiness is a person who is changed... who is constantly looking to Jesus and saying "*Here am I Lord*", use me and lead me as you see best for Your glory.