

The Character and Attributes of God
Lesson 2 – A Holy God
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Introduction: The power in Christianity is the knowledge of God.

- A. The knowledge of the character and promises of God is the motivating force to change and mold us. **(1 John 3:1-3)**
 - 1. We need to pay careful attention to how God introduces Himself.
 - 2. What brings fear and trembling in God's nature will also bring grace and complete fulfillment. **(Micah 7:18)**
- B. Whatever God reveals about Himself is absolutely true and cannot be changed. **(Mal 3:6; James 1:17; Heb 13:8)**
 - 1. Man of the moral and doctrinal compromises men make has its root in a lack of knowledge of God.
 - 2. Those who know God will become men of conviction and live distinct lives from the world.

I. God introduces Himself as Holy

- A. When God introduces Himself to Moses He appeared as a fire. **(Ex 3:1-5)**
 - 1. How do you approach He who is holy? There is a distinction and a fear that proceeds from being in the presence of a holy God.
 - 2. Consider the perfect holiness of God in three verses. **(1 Sam 2:2; Isa 40:25; Hosea 11:9)**
 - 3. "In the Old Testament, the verb holy in the Hebrew is "quodesh", meaning "to consecrate, to sanctify, to prepare, to dedicate, to be separate." The noun holiness means "apartness, sacredness, separateness.""
 - 4. "In the New Testament, the words holy, holiness, sanctify, and sanctification all come from the same Greek word "hagious," which means "sacred, (physically) pure, morally blameless, consecrated, innocent, modest, perfect, clean, pure.""
- B. God appealed to His holiness to teach His people how to have a relationship with Him. **(Lev 11:44-45; 19:2; 20:26)**
 - 1. Fire represents the purity and Holiness of God and also the dread brought on the unholy one who is brought into his presence.
 - 2. As God delivered His holy word on Mt. Sinai there was fire, lightning and a display of God's power. God wanted His people to see this and tremble. **(Heb 12:18-21, 29)**
 - 3. God wants us to show us how to have a relationship with Him and live!

Questions

- 1. If the nature of God was changeable, then what would be the consequences?
- 2. What does it mean when we say that God is holy?
- 3. What is the response of any man when brought into the presence of the Holy God?
- 4. Why does God want us to know that He is holy?
- 5. How can a holy God have a relationship with a man who has sinned?

II. The blessings produced by knowing the God who is holy

- A. It humbles a man and allows him to open his heart to hear and change.
 - 1. Fear can be a great tool to open a heart. **(Deut 5:23-24, 28-29)**
 - 2. The challenge for the people would be to remember that day and also to instill this fear of God in their children.
 - 3. Remembering God's holiness gives us a great confidence in the power of God! Consider the prayer of Hannah. **(1 Sam 2:1-9)**
 - 4. The great challenge we face is in willingly forgetting these truths and being draw away by the temporary.
- B. It lets us know that all that God does is perfect.
 - 1. Whatever God does or provides is holy. All things attached to Him are holy.
 - 2. God's people are set apart to His holy ways. **(Deut 14:2-3; 1 Pt 2:9)**
 - 3. God's instructions and ways are holy. Consider a "holy tithe." **(Deut 26:13-14)**
 - 4. Were the things collected in the tithe "holy?"
- C. It brings a reverence for God and His ways. **(Isa 48:17-18)**
 - 1. Since God had a complete instruction in how He was to be approached, then those who out of a lack of reverence changed God's instructions received God's condemnation. **(Deut 4:2; 1 Chron 15:12-13)**
 - 2. Consider how Moses explained the death of Aaron's sons to Aaron. **(Lev 10:1-3)**
 - 3. How should we approach God today? **(Rev 22:18-19)**
- D. It produces a distinctive faith and thus a distinctive people.
 - 1. Many become concerned about offending others and turn away from the holiness of God.
 - 2. There must be a distinctive preaching that affects our conduct and our thoughts. **(2 Cor 6:14-7:1; Heb 12:10-17)**
 - 3. Men may ridicule us but God considers us a treasure. **(Deut 7:6-9; 1 Pt 2:9)**
 - 4. All is done to glorify God and not you! **(1 Pt 4:11)**
- E. It makes us glory in and be thankful for the goodness and mercy of God.

Questions

- 1. Describe the humility that God seeks in us?
- 2. How does the knowledge of God's perfect help us?
- 3. How are all things connected with God holy? Is the church building holy?
- 4. How does God's holiness teach us to handle God's word?
- 5. What kind of teaching proceeds from a Holy God? Why do men fear the reaction of people to God's word? What is lacking in their heart when they do.