

Week 13: The Holiness of God

A Sabbath Family Bible Study

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 6:1–8; Leviticus 10:1–3; 1 Peter 1:13–16 (KJV)

With Commentary Throughout

Isaiah 6:1–3

“In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up... Above it stood the seraphims... and one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.”

Commentary:

When Isaiah sees the Lord in His heavenly throne room, the attribute emphasized by the angelic beings is not love, mercy, or justice—but **holiness**. Repeated three times for emphasis, this points to the absolute, incomparable purity and separateness of God. His holiness is what makes Him wholly other, utterly unique, and terrifying in majesty.

Isaiah 6:5–7

“Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone... for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.”

Commentary:

A true vision of God’s holiness always brings humility. Isaiah, though a prophet, is overwhelmed with a sense of his own sin and unworthiness. Holiness exposes filth. Before God can use a man, He humbles him, cleanses him, and makes him tremble.

Leviticus 10:1–3

“And Nadab and Abihu... offered strange fire before the LORD... And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them...”

Commentary:

God's holiness is not to be taken lightly. These sons of Aaron attempted to worship in their own way—apart from God's command. Their death shows that **approaching God flippantly or in disobedience is dangerous**. Worship must be reverent, ordered, and according to God's Word.

1 Peter 1:15–16

“But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”

Commentary:

God's holiness demands a response: we must be holy as He is holy. This isn't about sinless perfection, but about **being set apart**—in our thoughts, speech, habits, and homes. Holiness is the Christian's calling, and it starts with reverence for the Holy One.

**Discussion Questions for All Ages****Young Children:**

- What does it mean that God is holy?
- Why did Isaiah say “Woe is me” when he saw God?
- How should we act when we pray or read the Bible?

Older Children & Teens:

- Why did God punish Nadab and Abihu so severely?
- What are some ways we can show God respect in our daily lives?
- What does it mean to “be holy” in how we speak or behave?

Adults:

- How has modern Christianity lost a sense of God's holiness?
- What areas of your life or household need to be “set apart” more fully for God?

- How can we cultivate greater reverence for God in our home and worship?
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Psalm Reading

Psalm 99:1–5 (KJV)

1 The LORD reigneth; let the people tremble: he sitteth between the cherubims; let the earth be moved.

2 The LORD is great in Zion; and he is high above all the people.

3 Let them praise thy great and terrible name; for it is holy.

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

Commentary:

This Psalm emphasizes God's exalted and fearful holiness. To tremble before Him is not weakness—it is wisdom. Worship begins with awe. A right view of God leads to humility, order, and joy in His presence.

Hymn: “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

By Reginald Heber (1826)

A classic hymn reflecting Isaiah 6 and Revelation 4

1.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

2.

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

3.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

4.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!



Family Application Points

1. **Reverence in Worship:**

Teach children that worship is not casual. Model quiet, respectful hearts during prayer, reading, and singing. Remove distractions and treat God's Word with awe.

2. **Set Apart the Home:**

Evaluate what is allowed in the home—media, speech, clothing, attitudes. Remove what defiles. A holy God cannot dwell in an unholy place.

3. **Guard the Lord's Day:**

Treat the Sabbath with reverence and joy. Avoid turning it into a day of selfish pleasure or chaos. Let it reflect God's holiness through restful worship and order.

4. **Reflect God's Character:**

Encourage each family member to “be holy” in a specific area this week—speech, work ethic, kindness, or modesty. Holiness is practical, not just ceremonial.

5. **Discuss God's Majesty Daily:**

Begin the day or end the night by remembering God's greatness. Read a verse or pray aloud together with focus on His holiness.



Closing Prayer

O Holy God, You are high and lifted up, clothed in majesty and perfect in purity. Forgive us for treating You lightly, for coming before You with casual hearts or worldly minds. Teach us to tremble at Your Word and to live as people set apart for Your glory. May our home be a sanctuary of reverence, where Your holiness is honored and Your presence is welcomed. Purify our hearts, refine our thoughts, and make us holy as You are holy. In Jesus' name, our Mediator and High Priest, we pray. Amen.