



Sunday April 22, 2018
The Holiness of God Series
Part 3 : His Holiness In Me

Quick Review

In Part-1: Holy God - we introduced the holy nature of God,
We discussed about : The Revelation Of A Holy God
We said that God wants His Nature Reproduced In Us
We defined Holiness - What it is. God's absolute purity and sinlessness.
We also mentioned that Holiness is God's Glory And Beauty
We saw briefly that God is immeasurably holy - glorious in holiness. And then in closing we discussed about The Holiness And Goodness of God.

In Part-2 : Holy, Holy, Holy

We talked about God as the The Holy One, who is Thrice Holy.
Everything about Him is holy: His name is Holy, He speaks in holiness, His angels around him are holy, holiness adorns His house.
And so God states that He Must Be Regarded As Holy. We must not dishonor or profane His name.
In closing we saw that it is the Atonement Makes Us Holy. It is the Blood of Jesus, His Righteousness given to us that gives us Access Into His Holiness.

One of our goals in this series is for us to receive a revelation of the holiness of God so that we live out of that - knowing the God we worship is a holy God.

TODAY

God has called us to holiness and desires for us to be holy unto Him. He desires for His nature to be reproduced in us and revealed through us. We consider some practical aspects of His holiness being reproduced in us.

Jehovah M'Kaddesh - The Lord Your Sanctifier

Exodus 31:13

"Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: 'Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you.

Leviticus 20:8

And you shall keep My statutes, and perform them: I am the LORD who sanctifies you.

Leviticus 22:32

You shall not profane My holy name, but I will be hallowed among the children of Israel. I am the LORD who sanctifies you,



God speaks to His people in both the Old and New Covenants and declares Himself to be the Lord who sanctifies His people. He makes His people holy to Himself. He sanctifies them unto Himself. God is Holy. **He endows His holiness through what He sanctifies. What He sanctifies, becomes holy to Him.**

In the Old Testament, we find that God "sanctified", set apart as holy, various things:

Holy ground (Exodus 3:5; Joshua 5:15)
Holy convocations/feasts (Exodus 12:16; Leviticus 23:2)
Holy sabbath (Exodus 16:23)
Holy nation (Exodus 19:6)
Holy place, Most Holy Place (Exodus 26:33)
Holy garments (Exodus 28:2; Leviticus 16:4)
Holy things, holy gifts (Exodus 28:38)
Holy anointing oil (Exodus 30:25)
Holy priests (Exodus 30:29)
Holy incense (Exodus 30:37)
Holy house (Leviticus 27:14)
Holy field (Leviticus 27:21)
Holy offering (Leviticus 27:28)
Holy tithe (Leviticus 27:30,32)
Holy water (Numbers 5:17)
Holy people (Deuteronomy 7:6)
Holy camp (Deuteronomy 23:14)
Holy bread (1 Samuel 21:6)
..etc...

What God called holy, He expected His people to hallow and treat with reverence. God was displeased when His people profaned, treated with irreverence or contempt what He had designated as holy. Dishonoring what He designated as holy, was dishonoring Him.

However, in the New Testament, the emphasis shifts from days, feasts, places and things to PEOPLE. God hallows His people. God's people are holy. God's people become His temple, His dwelling place. Dishonoring His hallowed people, is dishonoring Him who made them holy unto Himself. (Ephesians 2:20; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 1 Corinthians 6:16-19; 2 Corinthians 6:17).

His People - Called To Holiness

1 Thessalonians 4:7 For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.

1 Peter 1:15-16

**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."**

We are called to holiness. This is an invitation, a divine summons God extends to us.



A call to share His nature

The call to holiness is an invitation to partake of His nature, to have His nature REPRODUCED in us and REVEALED through us.

A call to belong

The call to holiness is a call to belong to God as His people, as His special treasure. We see this for God's people in both the Old and New Covenants. (Deuteronomy 7:6; 1 Peter 2:9-10)

What Does It Mean To Be Holy?

God is our Sanctifier. What He sanctifies becomes holy unto Him. We become holy, because He sanctifies us. That means He has chosen to set us apart for Himself. He imparts to us both **the quality** (nature) of holiness and **the state** (position) of being holy.

Living holy, being holy is embracing the fact that we are completely His. We belong to Him completely. Every part of me belongs to the Most Holy One.

Holiness of life is a recognition and celebration that all of me belongs to Him, the Most Holy One. This is how holiness is REPRODUCED in me and hence REVEALED through me.

Here is how God works this out in our lives practically:

- ✓ We recognize that the power of sin has been broken.
- ✓ We recognize that we have become new creation in Christ and that as new creation we have been sanctified in Christ.
- ✓ The Spirit of God and His Word continually sanctify us and as we yield to the work of the Holy Spirit and the power of God's Word we are able to live holy lives.
- ✓ We consecrate all of ourselves unto the Lord
- ✓ Holiness or godliness becomes our way of life

Power of Sin Broken

The Bible teaches us that on the Cross, the Lord Jesus not only paid for our sins bearing the punishment for our sins, but He also broke the power of sin over our lives, setting us free from sin. The Cross was a place of identification. Jesus identified with us in our sins. We were identified with Him in His death, burial and resurrection. In dying with Him, sin's power was broken. We have then been raised up with Him to walk in new life. All of this is brought out to us powerfully and clearly in Romans chapter 6. We refer to a few verses from this chapter.



Romans 6:6

knowing this, that our old man (the old sinful nature) was crucified with Him, that the body of sin (the power of sin) might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

What is left now is for us to (A)recognize what has been done - count it as a fact and then (B)present ourselves to God

Romans 6:11-14

11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

Romans 6:19

I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.

Romans 6:22

But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

The New Creation Is Holy (Sanctified)

A very important truth for us to understand is that as new creation in Christ, we are already sanctified. This is positional truth. God completes the work in the spiritual realm and then invites us to live out of that in our daily practical lives.

However, it is important that we know and embrace positional truth. Only then will it begin to affect our practical lives.

Consider the following Scriptures that teach us that we are already sanctified and made holy before God in Christ. There are several more, but we will list just a few:

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.



Ephesians 4:24

and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

The new man, the born-again person, the new creation we have become on the inside in our spirit is created in God's image and is filled with righteousness and holiness. This new creation is already sanctified or set apart as holy unto God:

1 Corinthians 1:30

But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—

1 Corinthians 6:11

And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

We have been sanctified, that is set apart and made holy unto God, in Christ. This was God's plan from before the beginning of the world: *"just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,"* (Ephesians 1:4).

Sanctification - The Process of Holiness

While there is the positional truth of us being already sanctified in Christ, there is the practical aspect of sanctification, where each day we set ourselves as holy unto the Lord. This is the process of sanctification, where we live out our lives as a people who are sanctified. His holiness is then reproduced in us and revealed through us.

The writer of Hebrews brings this out:

Hebrews 10:10,14

10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. 14 For by one offering He has perfected (Greek 'teleio' = make complete, consecrate, consummate) forever those who are being sanctified.

Through His work on the Cross the Lord Jesus not only paid for our sins, not only broke the power of sin, but also once for all sanctified us (made us holy) and perfected us making us complete, fully consecrated to God and lacking nothing before God.

Yet the Scriptures point out that we are still being sanctified. This refers to our daily lives.



Having recognized the truth that the power of sin over our lives has been broken and as new creation we have been sanctified or made holy unto God, in our daily lives we bring each area of our lives as holy unto God, set apart unto Him.

Let's consider some practical areas, and God's holiness touching these areas of our lives.

#1) Sanctification of our mind and body

This is the sanctification of our thoughts, words and deeds.

We move from thinking ungodly, unholy thoughts to thinking things that are pure : *"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things."* (Philippians 4:8). We use the weapons of our warfare and get rid of strongholds, cast down imaginations and anything that goes against God and take every thought captive to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:4-6).

We choose our words carefully so that they bring glory and honor to God : *"Therefore, putting away lying, "LET EACH ONE OF YOU SPEAK TRUTH WITH HIS NEIGHBOR," for we are members of one another. Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers."* (Ephesians 4:25,29). We get rid *"filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks"* (Ephesians 5:4). We stop gossip, backbiting, slander, insults, etc.

We are careful with what we do - our deeds so that we glorify God at all times and in all things.

#2) Sanctification of our desires, our affections, our passions

We bring to God our bodily desires and appetites and seek to be holy in these.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality;

4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

5 not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

6 that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified.

7 For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.

8 Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.



#3) Sanctification of our dreams, hopes and aspirations

We consecrate our pursuits, dreams and aspirations.

We want to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33) in all that we pursue - academically, professionally, in our recreation and so on.

#4) Sanctification of our time, talents and money

We desire to glorify God with our time, by ensuring we do not waste time and put it to good use.

We seek to use our skills and capabilities in meaningful ways to glorify God and bless people.

We honor God with our money by giving generously into the work of His Kingdom and to help other people who are in need.

#5) Sanctification of our family, home and possessions

In our marriage, in our family life, how we nurture our children, our home and earthly possessions we seek to be set apart unto God and glorify God.

NEXT WEEK we will consider how God works this in us practically. But why should we as believers live holy in our daily lives?

The Rewards of Personal Holiness

Why live a holy life, if we already have a rich inheritance in Christ and have already been sanctified and perfected forever? How will living a holy life make a difference in our practical experience even though positionally we have already been blessed with every spiritual blessing, freely by grace?

We have already considered important truths thus far. Here are a few more truths that we can consider on why we need to live holy and let His holiness permeate our daily lives. There are several other very good reasons you can identify in Scripture.



#1) Holiness - key to being part of Him

John 13:8

Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me."

We understand that in washing the feet of all twelve of His disciples, the Lord Jesus was also setting an example of servanthood and serving one another (John 13:14-15). But even if he had washed the feet of just a few disciples that would have been sufficient to set the example. Here there is something more than the example that was set. The washing of the feet here was symbolic of cleansing. It has to do with being "clean" (see John 13:10-11). Hence Jesus mentioned that one of the twelve, even though his feet was washed was not "clean".

There was more. Jesus told Peter "If I do not wash you" - not just wash your feet, but all of you - you have no part with me. In practice, the cleansing and purifying, the sanctification and holiness, that the Lord Jesus works in our lives, is what enables us to share more fully in His life, in who He is, and in what He has for His disciples.

#2) Holiness - key to possessing our possessions

Obadiah 1:17

"But on Mount Zion there shall be deliverance, And there shall be holiness; The house of Jacob shall possess their possessions.

Mount Zion is a type of the Church (Hebrews 12:22-23). Mount Zion is to be a place of deliverance, of holiness and a place where God's people will possess what is theirs. Holiness is an integral part of experiencing deliverance and possessing our possessions.

#3) Holiness - profitable in all things

1 Timothy 4:7-8

7 But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness.

8 For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

Godliness, being devoted to God and a life of holiness, has it beneficial influence and brings rewards in all areas of life, and for the world to come.



#4) Holiness - key to being a vessel of honor

2 Timothy 2:19-21

19 Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor.

21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

The apostle Paul makes it very clear that holiness is key to being a vessel that God can use.

#5) Holiness - key to walking in spiritual authority

James 4:7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

For us to walk in spiritual authority we must walk in submission to God which is holiness. Positionally we are seated with Christ in heavenly realms. Practically, we walk in the authority that is ours as we walk in submission to the Lord.

#6) Holiness - key to Christlikeness

Holiness as we saw earlier in chapter one, is the core, the essence, an integral part of all other facets to His nature. Hence as holiness is perfected in us, all other facets of Christlikeness also begin to emerge and reveal themselves in us.

Prayer & Ministry Time



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Sunday April 22, 2018
The Holiness of God Series
Part 3 : His Holiness In Me

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 . 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: *Exodus 31:13; Romans 6:6-14; Ephesians 4:24; Hebrews 10:10,14*

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, The Lord is our Sanctifier - consider this name and nature of God. What does it mean for us to be sanctified by God?

2, God has already provided for us through the Cross and through making us new creation what we need to live holy. Discuss this further.

3, We have been sanctified, and yet sanctification is a continuous process. Discuss this giving consideration to the 5 broad areas of life that were discussed:

#1) Sanctification of our mind and body



- #2) Sanctification of our desires, our affections, our passions*
- #3) Sanctification of our dreams, hopes and aspirations*
- #4) Sanctification of our time, talents and money*
- #5) Sanctification of our family, home and possessions*

4, If time permits, discuss the rewards of personal holiness that were presented:

- #1) Holiness - key to being part of Him*
- #2) Holiness - key to possessing our possessions*
- #3) Holiness - profitable in all things*
- #4) Holiness - key to being a vessel of honor*
- #5) Holiness - key to walking in spiritual authority*
- #6) Holiness - key to Christlikeness*

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.