

March 30, 2016

What It Means To Be A Christian: God Is Holy

Isaiah 6:3 (ESV), **“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!”**

We live in an imperfect world in which weekly, often times daily, we see disaster, terrorism, evil, depravity and sin. Man is basically evil and God’s Word confirms that. Romans 3:10-11 says, **“None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God**

God however is the complete opposite. He is absolutely and perfectly holy as Isaiah 6:3 says and because God is holy He cannot commit sin or approve of evil. James 1:13 says, **“Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God,’ for God cannot be tempted with evil, and He Himself tempts no one.”** God is completely without sin and therefore holy and above reproach in all ways. Psalm 22:3 says, **“Yet You are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.”**

Not only is God holy, perfect, righteous and therefore without sin and completely incapable of sin, He also expects us to live in holiness as well. In 1 Peter 1:14-16 it says, “As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy.’” Far too many Christians make the mistake of thinking that being a Christian is just praying a prayer, being baptized, or joining a church. They forget the teaching of the Bible that we are to be obedient to God, we are to forsake the former way we lived, and we are to be holy. Why? Because the God who has saved us has saved us to be holy so He can be in fellowship with us.

The problem in our culture today is that the concept of personal holiness is largely ignored in the pulpit and in the church today for fear of offending people. Yet Scripture is very clear on two points: First that the God of heaven, the God of the Bible is a holy and righteous God. Secondly, that same holy God expects us to be holy as well.

Tomorrow we will look at why this is utterly impossible for us to accomplish.