

**Sermon Title: *“The Holiness & Transcendence of God”***

**Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8**

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Sunday, March 3, 2019

**INTRODUCTION**

Leviticus 20:3 - God’s name is holy.

Psalm 20:6 - God’s dwelling place is holy.

Psalm 105:42 - God’s promises are holy.

Isaiah 6 and Revelation 4 - God is praised and worshipped as holy.

Exodus 3 - God’s presence in the “burning bush” made the ground holy.

Exodus 26:34 - Inside the Temple was the “Holy of Holies” or the “Most Holy Place”.

2 Kings, Psalms, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Hosea, Isaiah - God is called “the Holy One of Israel”.

John 6:69 - Jesus is called “the Holy One of God”.

Some 94 times, in the New Testament, God the Spirit is called “The Holy Spirit”.

Note: The holiness of God is one of the most prominent and pervasive attributes of God. God’s holiness is proclaimed and emphasized, again and again, throughout the Bible.

**I. HUMBLED, CLEANSED, AND CHANGED BY THE TRANSCENDENT, HOLY GOD**

Note: To say that God is “holy” is to say that God is separate from us, distinct from His creation, and that He is without any hint of sin, blemish, or more imperfection.

*R. C. Sproul - “When the Bible calls God holy, it means primarily that God is transcendentally separate. He is so far above and beyond us that He seems almost totally foreign to us.”*

Operating Room…

Wedding Dress…

**1) Isaiah 6:1-3 -** God must be regarded, reverenced, and worshipped as infinitely holy.

***Hebrews 12:29 - “…our God is a consuming fire.”***

**2) Isaiah 6:4-5 -** Isaiah, and all creation, trembles in brokenness and humility before God.

***Psalm 7:11 - “God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day.”***

***Revelation 1:14-18 -***

**3) Isaiah 6:6-7 -** The God who is holy is the same God who cleanses, purifies, and makes us holy.

***Isaiah 53:6 - “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned - every one - to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”***

***Colossians 1:21-23a -***

**4) Isaiah 6:8 -** Having been cleansed and set-apart to God, we now offer our lives to Him.

***Romans 12:1 - “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”***

***1 Peter 2:9 - “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”***

**Take Home Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application…**

1. What are some common misconceptions or wrong definitions associated with “holiness”?
2. What does it mean that God is “holy”?
3. How are illustrations like an “operating room” and a “wedding dress” helpful and unhelpful in understanding God’s holiness?
4. What was Isaiah’s response to seeing and beholding the holiness of God? Can you relate to Isaiah’s response? What does God’s holiness reveal about our lives?
5. What is significant about Isaiah chapter 6, the cleansing Isaiah received, and Isaiah chapter 53?
6. After being cleansed, Isaiah offered himself to God. In what ways does God desire for us offer ourselves to Him and to share in His holiness? (It might be helpful to reference: 1 Peter 2:9-12; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; Romans 8:28-29)