



Perfecting Holiness

2 Corinthians 7:1, "Having therefore these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, **perfecting** holiness in the **fear** of God."

"The heavens declare the glory of God!" (Psalms 19: 1)



Reverence Is Vital In Worship

Psalms 2:11-12, "Worship the LORD with **reverence**, and rejoice with **trembling**. Do homage to the Son, lest He become angry, and you perish in the way." (NASV)

Psalms 5:7, "But as for me, by Thine abundant lovingkindness I will enter Thy house, at Thy holy temple **I will bow in reverence for Thee**." (NASV)

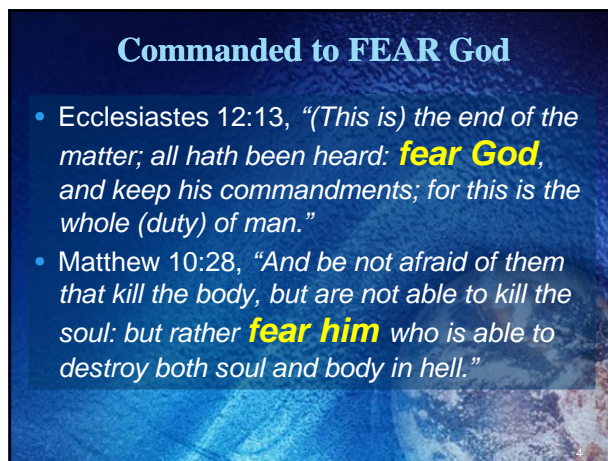
Psalms 111:9, "Holy and **reverend** is thy name"

Jesus, taught the disciples to address God reverently, "Our Father who art in heaven, **hallowed be thy name**" (Matthew 6:9).



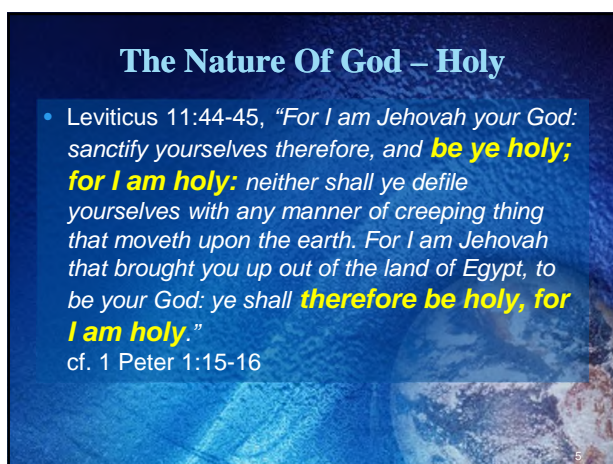
Commanded to FEAR God

- The angel said, "... with a great voice, **Fear God**, and **give him glory**; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made the heaven and the earth and sea and fountains of waters." Revelation 14:7
 - "phoberós: to fear, be afraid; absolutely to be struck with fear, to be seized with alarm ... **to reverence, venerate, to treat with deference or reverential obedience**" (Thayer)



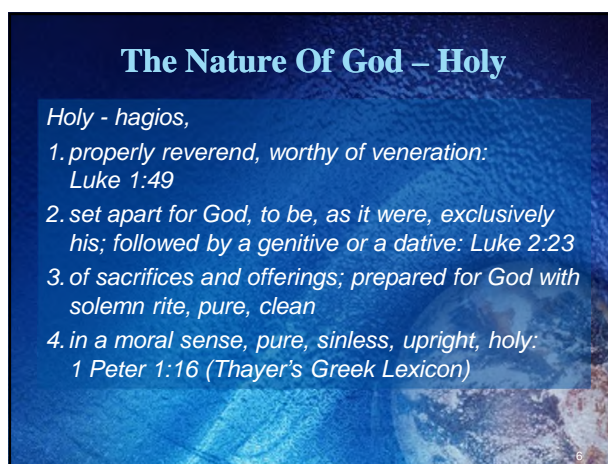
Commanded to FEAR God

- Ecclesiastes 12:13, "(This is) the end of the matter; all hath been heard: **fear God**, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole (duty) of man."
- Matthew 10:28, "And be not afraid of them that kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather **fear him** who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."



The Nature Of God – Holy

- Leviticus 11:44-45, "For I am Jehovah your God: sanctify yourselves therefore, and **be ye holy; for I am holy**: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that moveth upon the earth. For I am Jehovah that brought you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall **therefore be holy, for I am holy**."
 - cf. 1 Peter 1:15-16



The Nature Of God – Holy

Holy - haggios,

- properly reverend, worthy of veneration: Luke 1:49
- set apart for God, to be, as it were, exclusively his; followed by a genitive or a dative: Luke 2:23
- of sacrifices and offerings; prepared for God with solemn rite, pure, clean
- in a moral sense, pure, sinless, upright, holy: 1 Peter 1:16 (Thayer's Greek Lexicon)

The Nature Of God – Holy

- Exodus 15:11, “**Who is like unto thee, O Jehovah, among the gods? Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders?**”
cf. Psalms 99:9
- 2 Peter 1:4 – Partakers of His Divine Nature.

The Nature Of God – Holy

Recognize His Majesty

- Isaiah 6:3, “**Holy, holy, holy, is Jehovah of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.**”
- Revelation 4:8, “**Holy, holy, holy, (is) the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come.**”

The Nature Of God – Holy

Everything That Belongs To God Is Holy.

- **Sabbath Day.** Exodus 20:8, “Remember the sabbath day, to keep it **holy.**”
- **Temple.** Psalms 79:1, “O God, the nations are come into thine inheritance; Thy **holy temple** have they defiled; they have laid Jerusalem in heaps.”
- **Tabernacle.** Leviticus 15:31, “Thus shall ye separate the children of Israel from their uncleanness, that they die not in their uncleanness, **when they defile my tabernacle** that is in the midst of them.”

The Nature Of God – Holy

Everything That Belongs To God Is Holy.

- **Nation of Israel.** Deuteronomy 7:6, “For thou art **a holy people** unto Jehovah thy God: Jehovah thy God hath chosen thee to be a people for his own possession, above all peoples that are upon the face of the earth.”
- **The Church.** 1 Peter 2:5, 9; cf. 2 Timothy 2:19-22

Christians Are To Be Holy 2 Timothy 2:19-22

- **Set apart.** 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 – You belong to God!
- **Holy.** Romans 12:1-2, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, **holy ...**”
- **Partakers** of His divine nature. 2 Peter 1:4

Christians Are To Be Holy 2 Timothy 2:19-22

- ❖ **BUT I cannot be holy unless I acknowledge His majesty!**
- 2 Corinthians 7:1, “Having therefore these promises (note what promises, 6:17-18), beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, **perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**”
- **If I do not fear God, I cannot “perfect holiness.”**

Christians Are To Be Holy 2 Timothy 2:19-22

Romans 1:21-29, "because that, knowing God, they **glorified him not as God**, neither gave thanks; but became vain in their reasonings, and their senseless heart was darkened ... and **changed** the glory of the incorruptible God for the likeness of an image of corruptible man, and of birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things."

Romans 3:18; cf. Psalms 36:1-4

Christians Are To Be Holy 2 Timothy 2:19-22

When you fear God, you see sin as God sees it.

- Proverbs 3:7, "Be not wise in thine own eyes; Fear Jehovah, and depart from evil."
- Proverbs 8:13, "The fear of Jehovah is to hate evil: Pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, And the perverse mouth, do I hate."
- Proverbs 16:6, "By mercy and truth iniquity is atoned for; And by the fear of Jehovah men depart from evil."

Changing the Glory of God

"I want people to see things on our show that makes them think differently about their lives ... To be a light for people. To make a difference ... to open their minds and see things differently ... how to get in touch with the spiritual part of their life ... I was sitting in church and heard *that God is a jealous God. I asked 'Why?'* Come on – let's get over it! ... I believe in the FORCE – I call it God ... if you believe in a rhythm of nature and in love, then you believe in God." (READ Exodus 20:5; 34:14)

Changing the Glory of God

"Look within you and find yourself from within. Find that God-consciousness. That is God."
Oprah Winfrey

"Why do we even care what the Bible says thousands of years ago ... Being gay is not a sin, period."
(Jim O'Hanlon TEDxEgmontschool, youtube)

➤ Note: God calls upon us to reflect **HIS** holiness!

1 Peter 1:15-16

"but like as he who called you is holy, **BE** ye yourselves also **HOLY** in all manner of living; because it is written, Ye shall **be holy**; for I am holy."

- 2 Timothy 3:5, "holding a **form of godliness**, but having denied the power thereof. From these also turn away" cf. Romans 2:20

morphoōsis

- 1) a forming, shaping
- 2) the mere semblance

eusebeia

- 1) reverence, respect
- 2) piety towards God

My Reverence – My Life

Means change from within! Put off/ put on.
Ephesians 4:22, 24

- Change the heart. Matthew 15:18; 2 Corinthians 10:5
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. 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." NKJV

My Reverence – My Life

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- Examples:

– **Joseph.** Genesis 39:9, “*how then can I do this great wickedness, and **sin against God?**”*

– **Daniel.** Daniel 1:8, “*But Daniel **purposed in his heart** that he would not defile himself with the king’s dainties ...”* cf. 2 Corinthians 5:9

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My Reverence – My Life

Seek First the kingdom of God and **HIS**

RIGHTEOUSNESS. cf. Matthew 6:33;

Colossians 3:1-2

- At Home. Ephesians 5:22, 25, 33
- At Work / School. Ephesians 6:7
- In Clothing. 1 Timothy 2:9-10
- In Speech. Matthew 6:9; 1 Peter 1:17; Ephesians 4:29
- In Recreation. (Movies, Places, Books, Websites ...) Psalms 119:37-40

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Conclusion: My Reverence – My Life

- It is more than being baptized, more than “going to church.”
- We must, “**perfect holiness in the fear of God.**” 2 Corinthians 7:1
 - This is manifest in every decision I make.

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