

HE IS HOLY

2020-08-16

PSALM 99:5(NLTSE) Exalt the LORD our God! Bow low before His feet, for He is holy!

- The general idea of worship in the old testament, is us laying flat down on our faces, prostrate on the floor in front of God
- The general idea of worship in the new testament, is us moving from where we are at, to where God is, with the intention of kissing Him
- This amazing change was brought about because Jesus gives us access to the Father again
- We've been told that ancients wouldn't dare to pronounce the name of God in all of it's fulness because it was too holy to be mentioned by sinful humans
- This is where we see the word: LORD spelt with all capital letters in the old testament in some translations.
- It's God's name Yahweh spelt as YHWH
- We're told that it was also to be spoken as naturally as one would breathe in and out, as a reminder that God is the very essence of our life's breath.
- Yah as we inhale and Weh as we exhale
- People have wondered why a loving God can be so brutal in His execution of justice and judgement. When God ordered things to be put to death, absolutely everything that breathed had to be put to death
- This was extreme, to say the least. Why was this necessary?
- One explanation may be this: in the same way, we might never fully understand the extent of all of God's glory in this life, so too, we might never fully understand the severity of the consequences of evil, quite like God does
- God knows exactly what the full extent of the wages of sin are and we only partially know:
ROMANS 6:23(NLTSE) For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord
- Do we realize that this means total separation from God forever, with no possible way of redemption?
HEBREWS 12:14(NKJV) Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:
(NLTSE) Work at living in peace with everyone, and work at living a holy life, ***for those who are not holy will not see the Lord.***
- God is not simply "the big man upstairs" or "die groot baas"
- Jesus had to pay with His sinless life, to ensure our salvation.
- He willingly gave up His life and we'll have to willingly give up ours in pursuit of holiness: **MARK 8:35(NKJV)** For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake

and the gospel's will save it

- Becoming holy is not dependant on what we can do but on what Jesus Christ has already done:

EPHESIANS 2:8-10(NLTSE) “God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this, it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so **we can do the good things** He planned for us long ago.”

- Holiness is living out this God given ability to live right:

PHILIPPIANS 2:12(NLTSE) Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. **Work hard to show the results of your salvation**, obeying God with deep reverence and fear

- We must learn to **hate evil** and not simply fear it's consequences:

PSALM 97:10(NLTSE) You who love the LORD, **hate evil!** He protects the lives of His godly people and rescues them from the power of the wicked.

PROVERBS 8:13(NKJV) The fear of the LORD is to **hate evil**, pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate

CARE GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What is **your** definition of holiness? What is it's relevance in today's world?
2. Discuss the difference between old testament and new testament worship. How did this change come about?
3. In what way is God's holiness, shaping your pursuit of holiness?
4. In what practical way, can we learn to hate evil?