

Exploring the Character of God

Lesson 1: God Is Holy

Psalm 99:1-9 NKJV

- Have you ever seen or experienced something you would describe as one-of-a-kind?
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The Lord:

JEHOVAH, YAWEH, I AM THAT I AM= "the self-existing One", the proper name of the one true and living God

The Lord was not pronounced in later years by pious Jews for fear of violating the command in Ex.20:7. Instead, they substituted the word Adonai (Lord) whenever Yahweh occurred.

Exodus 20:7 7 "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

Holy:

The term refers to someone or something set apart from life's common aspects. God is set above creation and is perfect in every way. 1 Peter 1:13-16

Cherubim:

Are angelic creatures who serve God. Two golden images of cherubim sat atop the ark in the most holy place of the temple. They guarded the way to the tree of life. (Genesis 3:24) Ezekiel 28:14-16

Exodus 25:22

And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel.

Declaration of God's Majesty

The LORD reigns;
Let the peoples tremble!
He dwells *between* the cherubim;
Let the earth be moved!
² The LORD *is* great in Zion,
And He *is* high above all the peoples.
³ Let them praise Your great and awesome name—
He *is* holy.

The Rule of God

⁴ The King's strength also loves justice;
You have established equity;
You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
⁵ Exalt the LORD our God,
And worship at His footstool—
He *is* holy.

Israel's Dealings with a Holy God

⁶ Moses and Aaron were among His priests,
And Samuel was among those who called upon His name;
They called upon the LORD, and He answered them.
⁷ He spoke to them in the cloudy pillar;
They kept His testimonies and the ordinance He gave them.

⁸ You answered them, O LORD our God;
You were to them God-Who-Forgives,
Though You took vengeance on their deeds.
⁹ Exalt the LORD our God,
And worship at His holy hill;
For the LORD our God *is* holy.



Discussion Questions

1. Has there been a time in your life that God’s holiness became real to you? Vs 1-3

2. How does God’s justice, fairness, or righteousness impact your daily routine? Vs. 4-5

3. What do these verses teach us about a lifestyle of worship? Vs. 4-5

4. How can we tremble at God’s holiness yet still have an intimate relationship with Him?
