

## *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Sermon

2.19.2023

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Reflection of Holiness

### Isaiah 6: 1 – 8

How do we see our standard of holiness compared to Gods perfect holiness? What is our standard of holiness, it is what we place our value in, and if we fail to discover our true selves in Christ Jesus, then we cannot reflect the holiness of God. Holiness can only come from God, therefore, only God can give it unto us. Without Gods holiness, no man shall see the Lord, and without faith, truth, and righteousness, there is no holiness. However, God is a just God and judges' mankind fairly, and that is what makes the standard of holiness a requirement for humanity, so that we might acquire eternal life. Just because man is succeeding in life, this does not mean that it is the right thing to do, neither does it mean that God will change his perfect holiness to make our standard of holiness righteous in his sight. The world might approve of our standard of holiness, but Gods standard is far higher than that of the worlds, for sin is an abomination to the Lord.

**Isaiah 59: 2**,....but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear....

There is no idle position in the life of a Christian. We are either growing in grace, maturing spiritually in humbleness and obedience to his word, or we are weakening spiritually through unbelief and disobedience. Even though our eternal position is secure, an unfaithful servant will suffer the consequences of self-righteous sinfulness. It is only by living a life of faith and walking in spirit and in truth that we can reflect the holiness of God.

**Isaiah 6: 1 – 8,....**I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up....above it stood the seraphims....and one cried to another, and said, holy, holy, holy, is the Lord....the whole earth is full of glory....the posts of the door moved at the voice of him....then said I, woe is me! For I am undone, because I am a man of unclean lips....then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a coal in his hand....and he laid it upon my mouth, and said, lo....thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged....I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, here I am, send me....

When standing in the presence of God, what do we feel, what should we feel. Isaiah said, when I stand in the presence of God, I examine myself, and I truly begin to understand how unworthy to God the sinfulness in my life allows me to feel. In the eyes of humanity I have perfection, but when I compare myself to the true perfection of God, I stand afar off. We were sinners, and by grace are we saved.

**Ephesians 2: 8 – 9,....**for by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God....not works, lest any man should boast....

Often time, when standing in the truth and reality of Gods holiness, our sins, no matter how insignificant they may seem to us, when we compare this to the rest of the world, they still can become too large for us to bear. This is because, when in comparison to the perfection of God, we become overwhelmed by Gods glory and greatness.

As Christians, we belong to God, and everything that we do should represent Gods will. This is what we are meant to do, and that is to speak the truth of Gods word. We live in a world that is sinful, full of sinful people, people who reject God, people who persecute the body of Christ, people who ignore the commandments of Gods word, so therefore, when we come into the presence of the Lord, and we begin to reflect on our own lives, we see that we are not adequately holy. But, just like Isaiah, when we sincerely and faithfully cry out to a merciful God, he will not only take away our guilt, but he will also reassure us, that he has atoned for our sin. We have redemption, we have forgiveness, we have salvation in the Lord.

**1 Peter 1: 13 – 21**,....gird up the loins of your mind....hope to the end for grace....as obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts....but as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy....be ye holy, for I am holy....if ye call on the Father, who....judgeth according to every mans work....ye were not redeemed with corruptible things....but with the precious blood of Christ....who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world....who by him do we believe in God....and give him glory, that your faith and hope might be in God....

What is our standard of holiness? What do we place our value in? We either place our value in worldliness or the mortality side of eternity, or we place our value in Godliness and the immortality side of eternity. It all comes down to a question of which way that we will turn when finding meaning in our lives. What will we invest our thoughts in, what will we occupy our hearts with? There is only one logical standard in which to place our value, and that is in Gods grace, which comes by faith believing in Christ Jesus. Still, even as believers, it is difficult for us to keep our hearts and our minds set on those things which have eternal value.

**Colossians 3: 1 – 4**,....if ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above....set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth....when Christ....shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory....

Our goal in reflecting the holiness of God is to live our life with an eternal perspective and not to focus on mans rules and regulations for our spiritual guidance. Christ is not on the earth, he sets at the right hand of the Father, who together with him, they have sent back the spirit of truth, whom we should follow for our spiritual guidance so that our faith and our hope are in God. God had a plan for Christ and that is his life, his death, his resurrection, and glory. God has a plan for us as well, and that is our life, our death, our resurrection, and our glory. If we follow his plan, then our eternal perspective is in the right place.

**Ephesians 4: 24**,....put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and holiness....

The standard of holiness is not a man-made standard, but it is produced by the will of God, and it is carried unto us through his word, which is able to change our hearts and our lives. Holiness is not moving from the gospel of Jesus Christ to something new, but it is going deeper into the gospel that we already have. God's word is the only reliable standard for holiness.

1 Peter 1: 22,....seeing you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the spirit....

We do not judge how holy we are by looking at the world, we judge how holy we are by looking into Gods word. Man's standards will change, but Gods word is settled in heaven, and stands the test of time. If we want to live a holy life, than we must desire the word of God. We must seek and obey the word of God, anything less, means that we could never be a whole and complete servant of God. Gods word is the only reliable standard of reflecting his holiness.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

*Tim Hughes*

304.376.3342 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

<https://hollowolfarm.com/>





