

PURSUING OUR CAPACITY

A person with a backpack stands on a mountain peak, looking out over a vast, hazy landscape of rolling hills and valleys.

Understanding Holiness

A Glimpse of God's Supreme Identity...

Isaiah 6:1-4 NLT

¹ It was in the year King Uzziah died that I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple.

² Attending him were **mighty seraphim**, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³ They were calling out to each other,

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Heaven’s Armies!

The whole earth is filled with **his glory!**”

⁴ Their voices **shook the Temple to its foundations**, and the entire building was filled with smoke.

What Does God's Holiness Reveal?

1. God's Absolute Moral Purity

1 John 1:5 NLT "God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all."

2. Separation 'From...'

Isa. 59:2 NIV "But your iniquities have separated you from your God..."

3. Separation 'For...'

Lev 11:44 ESV "Consecrate yourselves... be holy, for I am holy."

Isaiah's Response to God's Holiness?

Isaiah 6:5-7 NLT

⁵ Then I said, “**It’s all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man.** I have filthy lips, and I live among a people with filthy lips. Yet I have seen the King, the LORD of Heaven’s Armies.”

⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a **burning coal** he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷ He touched my lips with it and said, “See, **this coal has touched your lips.** Now **your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven.**”

“God is looking for people he can use
- those he can bless and honour in
great ways. And he's looking to use
people who want to be holy.”

Rick Warren

Call: God's Righteousness, Not Self-Righteousness...

1 Peter 2:1-3, 5 NLT

¹ So get rid of **all evil behaviour**. Be done with **all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech**. ² Like new-born babies, **you must crave** pure spiritual milk so that you will **grow into a full experience of salvation**. Cry out for this nourishment, ³ now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness.

⁵ And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, **you are his holy priests**.

Growing Into 'A Full Experience of Salvation'?

- 1. Knowing God Personally**
- 2. Entering God's Spiritual Kingdom**
- 3. Embracing the power of the Holy Spirit**
- 4. Discovering God's Purpose**
- 5. Living a Life of God-given Significance**
- 6. Certainty about Eternity**

Q. Where can I grow further?

Holiness Opens A New Commission

Hebrews 12:14 NLT

¹⁴ 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**.

Isaiah 6:8-9 NLT

⁸ Then I heard the Lord asking, “**Whom should I send** as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?”

I said, “**Here I am. Send me.**”

⁹ And he (*the Lord*) said, “**Yes, go, and say to this people,...**

Restored Hope - A “Highway of Holiness”

Isaiah 35:5-6, 8 NLT

⁵ And when he comes, he will open the eyes of the blind and unplug the ears of the deaf. ⁶ The lame will leap like a deer, and **those who cannot speak will sing for joy!** Springs will gush forth in the wilderness, and streams will water the wasteland.

⁸ And a great road will go through that once deserted land. It will be named **the Highway of Holiness**. Evil-minded people will never travel on it. It will be **only for those who walk in God’s ways**; fools will never walk there.

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