



The Holiness of God—part 3
The Holy Word
From Sermon 8.28.22

Read *Psalm 105:42, John 17:17, & 1 Thessalonians 2:13*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: Once we study the reality of God's holiness, it's clear the modern church has lost this truth. We've made God common and casual. Our treatment of sacred Scripture is both an evidence and a cause of this downfall. This book is clearly different than any other writing. It is everything God wanted to say and everything we need for a victorious Christian life of faith and service. We should never take it lightly or ignore its essential truths and doctrines. It's literally Jesus in our hands.

1. Once again, what have learned is the very definition of biblical holiness? Separate or to be set apart. Distinctly pure, sinless, uncorrupted. High and above that which is created.

2. How has our view of God tainted our value of Scripture? Various answers. When we treat/view God has casual, it brings Him down to our level. Therefore: If we can/do dismiss human words and laws, we will then ignore and treat casually the living Word of God. We'll pick and choose what we like, just as a consumer.

2a. How has our view of Scripture tainted our reverence of God? We can handle Scripture as a book of wisdom and good ideas instead of a powerful sword. We find warm, fuzzy, comforting passages, but neglect the weightier portions like commands, doctrines, and wrath. Therefore: we make God simple and void of holy law. The modern evangelical church has presented Jesus as a coach, mentor, genie in a bottle, and spiritual Santa Claus vs the great I AM who told Moses to remove his sandals in His Presence.

3. What are some common worldviews of the Bible? Various answers. A book of fantasy/fiction. One among many equals in being a better person. A book of morality with legends of the supernatural that can be explained by science. The writings of man—mostly to feel secure and grant men power.

3a. What are some common distortions by the cults concerning the Bible? The modern translations cannot be trusted. They've all been corrupted and present the wrong God and wrong salvation. God revealed to them (through some new prophet, angel, vision, voice) the new, pure version of truth and new books.

4. Read *Hebrews 4:12*. Explain and discuss the illustration of Scripture as a "two-edged sword". The Scripture cuts both ways: for the elect, it cuts through our façade and exposes the real person with total depravity. It lays us open and bare before a holy God. Then, it reveals the One and Only hope and means of salvation—Jesus Christ. It cuts the other way for the non-elect. The very same Word that saves/saved us will be the standard by which they are judged on the Day of the Lord. See also *Ephesians 6:17*

5. On Sunday, what were listed as some of the many consequences of the Word being Holy? Various answers. But, include: it is then Powerful, Living, Effective, Consistent, Truth in Origins, History, and Archeology, Trustworthy in Prophecy, Sufficient, and Enduring. See also *1 Peter 1:22-25*