

Introduction**Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name...**(May your name be kept **holy** and treated as **sacred**.)

- One of the most important things that we can say about God is that **he is holy** – This has been called “**the attribute of attributes**” – yet, it is one of the most difficult things to understand about him.
- **ISAIAH 6:1-8** Seraphim called out, “**Holy, Holy, Holy** is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!”
- **REVELATION 15:3-4** For you alone are **holy**.

“Holy”

- The word **holy** (or **sacred**) means to be **separated** or **set apart**. This is its primary meaning.  
It refers to God’s nature – that he is set apart, distinct and entirely separate from all others.  
(This is **God’s majestic holiness**.)  
The word holy is also used to represent being set apart for the work of God; having relation or contact with God – holy ground, holy sabbath, holy temple, holy of holies, etc..
- Secondly, the word holy refers to God’s character, his **purity**, his absolute moral and ethical excellence.  
(This is **God’s moral holiness**.)

God’s Majestic Holiness

- Only God has this attribute – it is incommunicable, unique to God, and cannot be shared by humans.
- **EXODUS 15:11** Who is like you among the gods, O LORD? Who is like you, **majestic in holiness**...
- **REVELATION 4:8** **Holy, Holy, Holy** is the LORD GOD, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come.

“Set Apart”

- **EXODUS 3:1-6** ...you are standing on **holy ground**.
- **2 PETER 1:16-18** ...with him on **the holy mountain**.

God’s Moral Holiness

- This is a communicable attribute – it is infinite in God, but can be shared (partially) by humans.
- **LEVITICUS 19:1-2** You shall be **holy**, for I the LORD your God am **holy**. [NT – **1 PETER 1:14-16**]
- **EPHESIANS 1:3-4** God chose us in Christ that we should be **holy** and blameless before him...

Good Quote

- God’s holiness is not simply the best we know infinitely bettered. We know nothing like the divine holiness. It stands apart, unique, unapproachable, incomprehensible and unattainable.

A. W. Tozer *The Knowledge of the Holy*