

# Pastor's Pen

**"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" Isaiah 6:3**

I saw a quote the other day by R C Sproul that said, "The Bible never says that God is love, love, love, or mercy, mercy, mercy, or wrath, wrath, wrath. It does say He is Holy, Holy, Holy." We find it in two places in scripture, in Isaiah 6:1-3 and in Revelation 4:8. In Isaiah's vision the seraphim utter the phrase "holy, holy, holy." Seraphim are heavenly creatures specifically mentioned only here in the Bible. In Revelation 4:8, John writes of what are likely the same heavenly beings seen by Isaiah. John records, "And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, 'Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!'" In both John's and Isaiah's visions, these beings constantly declare God's glory.

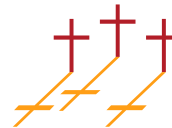
What does it mean that God is holy, holy, holy? The meaning of God is holy, holy, holy reflects His eternal nature, divine perfection in the Trinity, and supreme holiness. God is perfect in all His ways in eternity past, present, and future. His perfection is revealed in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who share equal divine attributes. No one is holy like God, and therefore He alone is worthy of our worship.

John MacArthur writes the following about the holiness of God, "God's holiness is His utter and complete separation from evil in any and every form. He is absolutely untainted by any evil, error, or wrongdoing—unlike angels (some of whom sinned) or humans (all of whom sinned). In 1 Samuel 2:2 Hannah declared, "There is no one holy like the Lord," because He alone is "majestic in holiness" (Ex. 15:11). The prophet Habakkuk praised God because "[His] eyes are too pure to approve evil, and [He] cannot look on wickedness with favor" (Hab. 1:13).

"God sits on His holy throne," declared the psalmist (Ps. 47:8), while Psalm 111:9 adds, "Holy and awesome is His name." In 1 Peter 1:16, God Himself declared, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

The problem for too many Christians is that we do not take seriously the holiness of God and it hinders our worship and walk with Him. If I have a correct view of the holiness of God than it becomes easier to obey the Word of God. Luke 9:23 becomes a joy and not a burden. Being a 1 Corinthians 13 and Romans 12 Christian is a way of life instead of something I do when I feel like it. Your view of the Holiness of God has a direct correlation with your walk with Christ. I find when I meditate on God's holiness I realize how small I am. But, at the same time it brings me great joy to know that the One that the angels say, "holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, "sent His Son to die for me.

Your shepherd,  
Pastor Mark



## Quote of the Week

"I have now concentrated all my prayers into one, and that one prayer is this, that I may die to self, and live wholly to Him."  
- Charles Spurgeon

# Grace Gems

When God laughs (Charles Spurgeon, "The Treasury of David")

**"The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord ridicules them!" Psalm 2:4**

Note God's derision of the rebellious! What will the King do unto those who reject Him? Mark the quiet dignity of the Omnipotent One, and the contempt which He pours upon His raging enemies. He has not taken the trouble to rise up and do battle with them—He despises them, He knows how absurd, how irrational, how futile are their attempts against Him. He therefore laughs at them! (Charles Spurgeon) "The One enthroned in heaven . ." Hereby it is clearly intimated, that the Lord is far above all their malice and power; that He sees all their plots, looking down on all; that He is of omnipotent power, and so can do with His enemies just as He desires. "Our God is in the heavens! He has done whatever He has pleased." (Arthur Jackson)

Sinners' follies are the righteous sport of God's infinite wisdom and power. Those attempts of the kingdom of Satan, which in our eyes are formidable, in God's eyes are despicable. (Matthew Henry)

"The One enthroned in heaven laughs". They scoff at us—but God laughs at them! Laugh? This seems like a harsh word at first view. But are the derision, the persecution and the injuries of his saints; and the cruelties of their enemies—a matter of laughter? God laughs—but it is in scorn; He scorns—but it is with vengeance. Short is the joy of the wicked! Oh, what are God's frowns—if His smiles are so terrible! (Thomas Adams) The expression, "The One enthroned in heaven", at once fixes our thoughts on a being infinitely exalted above impotent man. And when it is said, "HE laughs," this is designed to convey to our minds the idea, that the greatest confederacies among kings and peoples, and their most extensive and vigorous preparations to defeat HIS purposes—are in HIS sight altogether insignificant and worthless! HE looks upon their poor and puny efforts, not only without uneasiness or fear—but HE laughs at their folly! HE treats their impotency with derision. He knows how HE can crush them like a moth when HE pleases—or consume them in a moment with the breath of HIS mouth! How profitable it is for us to be reminded of truths such as these! Ah! it is indeed a vain thing for the potsherd of the earth to strive with the glorious Majesty of Heaven! (David Pitcairn)

# Weekly Gatherings



## Bible Classes

Discipleship Class  
With Brian Patrick  
Sunday Morning @ 8am



## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM  
Men's Bible Study

Mondays 9:30am | Thursdays 6:30PM  
Women's Book Study



## Job Study

Wednesdays @ 7PM  
Teaching Series



## Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.



## Children's Studies

Pastor Jamie with Caleb Capps Preschool  
Video  
Youth Study Wednesdays @6:30pm



## Service Times

Sunday Service 8:30am & 10:30 AM  
Children's Church @10:30am

### Giving from service on 05.17.20

|                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| General Offering ..... | 9,504.58         |
| Building Fund .....    | 1,038.80         |
| Uganda .....           | 135.00           |
| Benevolence .....      | 1,360.00         |
| Foundation .....       | 25.00            |
| <b>Total .....</b>     | <b>12,063.38</b> |

Attendance ...123 present  
31 online connections

## Got Questions

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org  
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org  
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org  
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org  
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org  
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org  
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org  
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org  
Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org  
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org  
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org  
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# Grace Harvest Baptist Church

May 24, 2020

