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## God is Holy

### Study Questions

1. When I say the word “holy,” what comes to your mind?
2. Read Habakkuk 1:13. Habakkuk lived at the time of the Babylonian invasion of Jerusalem (~600 BC). How does Habakkuk describe God at the beginning of the verse?
3. Why are we frightened by the holiness of God, while at the same time being attracted to it?
4. The Lord’s Prayer includes a desire that the Lord’s name be treated as holy. Do you think that modern Christians evidence this commitment to the holiness of God’s name? Is God’s name often treated in a frivolous manner?
5. Is it possible for people to honour God and at the same time fail to revere His name? Why or why not?
6. Read Mark 4:35ff. Why does being in the presence of holiness invoke fear in man’s heart?
7. If the presence of holiness invokes fear in man’s heart, how is it possible to have peace with God who is perfectly holy (See Romans 5:1-5)?
8. Read Isaiah 6:1-4, and in the chart below fill in what Isaiah saw, heard, or experienced, and what that tells us about God.

- What Isaac Saw or experienced

- What it tells us about God

9. Meditate on the person of God as He reveals himself. Does that change your view of yourself? If so, how?

10. Isaiah 6:2 refers to angelic beings that are named nowhere else in Scripture, though they resemble the “living creatures” of Revelation 4:6-9.

- Why do you think the seraphim (fiery ones) cover their faces and feet?
- What could we learn from them about worship?

11. Consider how this biblical concept of the holiness of God relates to our daily lives

- What does it mean in 1 Peter 1:13-16?
- What about 2 Peter 3:11-12 ? What is it saying about personal holiness? Pay close attention to the context.

12. If you have time in your group, discuss the following from Dutch theologian Herman Bavinck (1854-1921).

*To understand the benefit of sanctification correctly, we must proceed from the idea that Christ is our holiness in the same sense in which he is our righteousness. He is a complete and all-sufficient Saviour. He does not accomplish his work halfway but saves us really and completely. He does not rest until, after pronouncing his acquittal in our conscience, he has also imparted full holiness and glory to us . . . [Evangelical sanctification] consists in the reality that in Christ God grants us, along with righteousness, also complete holiness, and does not just impute it but also inwardly imparts it by the regenerating and renewing working of the Holy Spirit until we have been fully conformed to the image of his Son. <sup>1</sup>*

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<sup>1</sup> Herman Bavinck *Reformed Dogmatics Vol 4* pg 248