

The Holiness of God – R. C. Sproul

Week 4 – The Meaning of Holiness

Opening devotions: Ps. 95:1-6/prayer

Questions/thoughts

1. In our vocabulary today, what two definitions do we use for the word holy?
2. Which definition is primary and which is secondary?
3. Give some example of holy persons, places and things in the Bible?
4. What are some things that Dr. Sproul mentioned that we set aside and treat as holy in our lives?
5. What is xenophobia? Do we experience this with God? Should we?
6. What are the two general responses when experiencing the presence of holiness?
7. The first petition in the Lord's Prayer is "hallowed be thy name." How would changing the "be" in that phrase to "is" change the meaning of that phrase?"

Thoughts to ponder

- *The holiness of God is not to be conceived of as one attribute among others; it is, rather, a general term representing the conception of His consummate perfection and total glory. It is His infinite moral perfection crowning His infinite perfection and power. A. A. Hodge*
- *Holiness in the believer is nothing less than conformity to the moral character of God. Jerry Bridges*
- *The serene beauty of a holy life is the most powerful influence in the world next to the power of God. Blaise Pascal*

Definitions

- Apartheid: a system of racial segregation in South Africa
- Transcendence: going beyond the limits of ordinary experience
- Phenomenological: of or relating to phenomena (observable facts or events)
- Whirling dervish: A person whose behavior resembles a rapid, spinning object.

Reference

Author: Rudolph Otto (and John W. Harvey) – *The Idea of the Holy* (1958)

Closing prayer – R. C. Sproul