



Sharing His Divine Nature

A Series on Holiness

2 Peter 1:3-4

By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence. And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to *share his divine nature* and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires.

2 Peter 1:5-6

In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.

2 Peter 1:7

The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Points to Remember

- Share His Divine Nature

Hebrews 12:10-11

For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But God's discipline is always good for us, so that we might *share in his holiness*. No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening -- it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.

Hebrews 12:12-14

So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but become strong. Work at living in peace with everyone, and *work at living a holy life*, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord.

Points to Remember

- Share His Divine Nature
- Share His Holiness

Genesis 1:26

Then God said, “*Let us make human beings in our image, to be like ourselves.* They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground.”

Genesis 1:27-28

So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.”

Points to Remember

- Share His Divine Nature
- Share His Holiness
- Created in His Image

Job 6:8-10

Oh, that I might have my request, that God would grant my desire. I wish he would crush me. I wish he would reach out his hand and kill me. At least I can take comfort in this: Despite the pain, I have not denied the words of the *Holy One*.

Psalm 89:15-18

Happy are those who hear the joyful call to worship, for they will walk in the light of your presence, LORD. They rejoice all day long in your wonderful reputation. They exult in your righteousness. You are their glorious strength. It pleases you to make us strong. Yes, our protection comes from the LORD, and he, the *Holy One* of Israel, has given us our king.

Isaiah 12:6

Let all the people of Jerusalem shout his praise with joy! For great is the *Holy One* of Israel who lives among you.

Luke 4:33-35

Once when he was in the synagogue, a man possessed by a demon -- an evil spirit -- began shouting at Jesus, "Go away! Why are you interfering with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are -- the *Holy One* sent from God!" Jesus cut him short. "Be quiet! Come out of the man," he ordered. At that, the demon threw the man to the floor as the crowd watched; then it came out of him without hurting him further.

Acts 3:13-15

For it is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob -- the God of all our ancestors -- who has brought glory to his servant Jesus by doing this. This is the same Jesus whom you handed over and rejected before Pilate, despite Pilate's decision to release him. You rejected this *holy, righteous one* and instead demanded the release of a murderer. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. And we are witnesses of this fact!

1 John 2:18-20

Dear children, the last hour is here. You have heard that the Antichrist is coming, and already many such antichrists have appeared. From this we know that the last hour has come. These people left our churches, but they never really belonged with us; otherwise they would have stayed with us. When they left, it proved that they did not belong with us. But you are not like that, for the *Holy One* has given you his Spirit, and all of you know the truth.

Points to Remember

- Share His Divine Nature
- Share His Holiness
- Created in His Image
- He is Holy

Leviticus 11:44-45

For I am the LORD your God. You must consecrate yourselves and *be holy, because I am holy*.... For I, the LORD, am the one who brought you up from the land of Egypt, that I might be your God. Therefore, *you must be holy because I am holy*.

Leviticus 19:2

Give the following instructions to the entire community of Israel. *You must be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy.*

Leviticus 20:7, 26

So set yourselves apart to be holy, for I am the LORD your God.... You must be holy because I, the LORD, am holy. I have set you apart from all other people to be my very own.

Leviticus 22:32

Do not bring shame on my holy name, for I will *display my holiness among the people of Israel. I am the LORD who makes you holy.*

1 Peter 1:15-16

But now *you must be holy* in everything you do, just as **God** who chose you *is holy*. For the Scriptures say, “*You must be holy because I am holy.*”

Points to Remember

- Share His Divine Nature
- Share His Holiness
- Created in His Image
- He is Holy
- We are to be Holy because He is Holy

Why Aren't We Holy?



SIN

1 John 2:15-17

Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for *physical pleasure*, a craving for *everything we see*, and *pride in our achievements and possessions*. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

The Effects of Sin

- Physical
- Mental
- Emotional
- Spiritual

Bottom Line

- Because of sin, the divine nature of God—holiness—now competes with another human nature—namely sin.
- What God intended to be the default is now a choice—divine nature or sin nature.

Defining Holiness

- English definition
 1. Belonging to, derived from, or associated with a divine power; sacred.
 2. Regarded with or worthy of worship or veneration; revered: *a holy book*.
 3. Living according to a strict or highly moral religious or spiritual system; saintly: *a holy person*.
 4. Specified or set apart for a religious purpose: *a holy place*.
 5. Solemnly undertaken; sacrosanct: *a holy pledge*.
 6. Regarded or deserving special respect or reverence: *The pursuit of peace is our holiest quest*.

Hebrew Definition

- vd'q (kaw-dash')
- to consecrate, sanctify, prepare, dedicate, be hallowed, be holy, be sanctified, be separate

- vd,qo (ko'-desh)
- apartness, holiness, sacredness, separateness

- vwdoq (kaw-doshe')
- sacred, holy, Holy One, saint, set apart

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- **vAdiq.** (kaw-doshe')
 - sacred, holy, Holy One, saint, set apart

Greek Definition

- a[giój (hag'-ee-os)
 1. Pertaining to being dedicated or consecrated to the service of God
 2. The holy (thing or person)

Foundational Principles

- Holiness is not about us.
- It is about God – “You must be holy because I am holy”
- Holiness is not about what we do or how we perform.
- Holiness is about God’s nature and our sharing in that nature.
- Holiness is what God is – “I am holy”
- Holiness is what we choose to pursue – “Pursue peace with everyone, and holiness, for without it no one will see the Lord.”