

## **Biblical Theology**

### **Unit 2: Doctrine of God – Lesson 6: Communicable Attributes of God Part 3**

#### **Holiness**

- Definition: God's holiness means that he is separated from sin, devoted to seeking his own honor.
  1. **God is separated from sin and is the "Most Holy One".**
    - *Deuteronomy 32:4 – A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He.*
    - *1 John 1:5 - God is light, in Him there is no darkness at all.*
    - *2 Corinthians 5:21 - For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin*
  
    - Illustrated by where God dwells.
      - *Exodus 26:33 - curtain shall separate ... holy place from the most holy.*
      - *Isaiah 6:1-5 - "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts... "Woe is me!"*
- Communicable Tie to Mankind
  - God's holiness provides a pattern for man to imitate.
    - *1 Peter 1:13-16 - be holy yourselves in all your conduct;*
    - *Romans 12:1-2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed*

#### **Peace / Order**

- Definition: God's peace means that in God's being and in his actions he is separate from all confusion and disorder, yet he is continually active in innumerable well-ordered, fully controlled, simultaneous actions.
  1. **God is not a God of confusion, but peace.**
    - *1 Corinthians 14:33 - for God is a God not of disorder but of peace.*
    - *Romans 15:33 - The God of peace be with all of you.*
    - *Isaiah 48:22 - "There is no peace," says the Lord, "for the wicked."*
  2. **God is not a God of inactivity, but order.**
    - *Ephesians 1:3-4 - he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world*
    - *John 5:17 - "My Father is still working, and I also am working."*
    - *Romans 8:28 - We know that all things work together for good*
- Communicable Tie to Mankind
  - God gives mankind peace through reconciliation and obedience.
    - *Psalms 85:8 - for he will speak peace to his people*
    - *Romans 5:1 - Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God*
    - *Philippians 4:4-7 - And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding*
  - God's peace is fruit of the Spirit
    - *Galatians 5:22-23 - love, joy, peace ... self-control.*

#### **Righteousness /Justice**

- Definition: God's righteousness means that God always acts in accordance with what is right and is himself the final standard of what is right.
  1. **God never does what is wrong because he is the standard of right.**
    - *Deuteronomy 32:4 - The Rock, his work is perfect, and all his ways are just.*
    - *Psalms 19:8 - The precepts of the Lord are right*
    - *Isaiah 45:19 - I the Lord speak the truth, I declare what is right.*
  
    - Being that God is the standard of right makes it impossible for him to do wrong.
      - *Romans 9:14;20-21 - Who are you, O man, who answers back to God?*

- 2. **God's righteousness and justice mean that it is necessary for him to punish sin.**
  - *Psalm 7:11 - God is a righteous judge, a God who has indignation every day.*
  - *Revelation 20:11-15 - anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.*
  - Imagine a God who is unlimited in his power and who is not righteous.
- Communicable Tie to Mankind
  - Man has insatiable, inherent desire for justice.

### Jealousy

- Definition: God's jealousy means that God continually seeks to protect his own honor.
  - 1. **God's jealousy is his continual intention to protect his own honor.**
    - *Exodus 20:5 - for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God,*
    - *Exodus 34:14 - for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God*
    - *Deuteronomy 4:24 - For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.*
- Communicable Tie to Mankind
  - Man can share in jealousy for God by living to protect God's honor.

### Wrath

- Definition: God's wrath means that he intensely hates all sin.
  - 1. **God's intensely hates all sin.**
    - Old Testament Examples
      - Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Sodom and Gomorrah, Flood, Plagues in Egypt / Red Sea, Wandering in the wilderness, Exiles
    - New Testament Examples
      - *John 3:36 - whoever disobeys the Son...must endure God's wrath.*
      - *1 Thessalonians 1:10 - Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath*
      - *Revelation 6:16-17 - wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"*
- Communicable Tie to Mankind
  - God's people are called to hate sin.
    - *Psalm 97:10 - The Lord loves those who hate evil;*
    - *Proverbs 8:13 - The fear of the Lord is hatred of evil.*

### Discussion Questions

1. Recognizing we are called to be holy (separated from sin and fully devoted to God), are there activities or relationships in your present pattern of life that are hindering your growth in holiness?
2. Is God more loving than he is just? Explain.
3. How is God's jealousy justified?
4. In what ways is it right to imitate God's wrath? In what ways is it wrong to imitate God's wrath?

### Reading Assignment

*Systematic Theology by Wayne Grudem – Chapter 13: The Character of God: "Communicable" Attributes (Part 2)*