

Eisenhower Church of Christ

How Great Is Our God!

His Great Holiness: It has well been said, “What health is to the heart, holiness is to the soul” (John Flavel). Of all the attributes of God, holiness is arguably the most comprehensive and significant. No other attribute of God is emphasized more frequently or solemnly; for that matter, no other quality is three-peated (cf. Isaiah 6:3; Revelation 4:8). Everything associated with God is holy. And a knowledge of God and His holiness should be deeply desired by every Christian (John 17:3; Proverbs 9:10). Consider the following four pertinent matters concerning holiness.

Holiness-Its Emphasis: God is “glorious” in holiness (Exodus 15:11), and “there is none as holy as the Lord” (I Samuel 2:2). “The Lord is righteous in all his ways and holy in all His works” (Psalm 145:17). “To whom will you compare Me, that I should be like Him? Says the Holy One” (Isaiah 40:25). Our God is holy and true (Revelation 3:7), and is jealous for His holy name (Ezekiel 39:7, 25). To study Scripture is to see repeatedly and remarkably its awesome emphasis on the holiness of God.

Holiness-Its Meaning: Three main concepts come together to help our finite minds grasp something of the infinite holiness of God. The first concept is that of *separation*. He is a cut above, is infinitely transcendent and beyond all comparison (Isaiah 40:18). The second concept is *purity / moral excellence*. By this it is meant that God is wholly, wholly holy. He is absolutely free from stain or anything that pollutes; He is perfect (Habakkuk 1:12-13). A third concept to consider is that of *glory or light* (cf. Isaiah 42:8; John 1:18, 8:12). While in one sense God’s Holiness is unattainable, in another legitimately biblical sense holiness is to characterize the life of every child of God (I Peter 1:15-16; 2 Peter 3:11-14). While Scripture refers to the Holiness of God in a variety of ways both explicitly and implicitly (e.g., through the use of symbols like “light” and “fire”), the perfect embodiment of holiness is Jesus Himself (John 8:29, 46, 14:8-9; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 7:26). The holiness of God required that something be done for sin and the love and mercy of God provided it in Jesus. The very holiness that made Jesus the perfect sacrifice for sin also made His bearing of our sin even more painful (Matthew 27:46; I Peter 3:18). *Oh help me understand it; Oh help me take it in. What it meant to You—Oh God, to take away my sin!*

Holiness—Its Pursuit: Holiness is no mere suggestion, nor is it just a polite request; it is a command (I Peter 1:15-16; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1). Holiness is about the passionate pursuit of loving what God loves and hating what God hates (Psalm 97:10; Amos 5:15). In this sense, it is a matter of *separation* for us. While we are in a world full of sin, we don’t have to engage in or indulge in it! In that we genuinely and sincerely seek to live God-pleasing lives, there is the concept of *purity or moral excellence* (Titus 2:11-14; Matthew 5:8). By properly speaking out against sin and positively reflecting the beauty of Jesus, *glory* is given to God (I Corinthians 10:31) and we show the light of our blessed Lord (Matthew 5:13-16; Philippians 2:15). Hebrews 12:14 simply and eloquently states, “Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no man will see the Lord.” Every Christian and every congregation would do well to engage in a serious study of holiness. It might be called, “Holiness 101.”

Holiness—Its Application: Why is holiness so important? Why is it absolutely essential in Christianity? Many good answers might be given, but consider these four. First, *God is holy and*

he wants us to be like him. Second, Jesus died to make us holy. A failure to appreciate holiness means we love what killed Jesus! Third, holiness distinguishes us from the world and is a powerful form of evangelism. Are we really any different from the world, and is it a refreshing difference? (Cf. Acts 4:13). Finally, only the holy know peace, joy and blessed assurance from God! (Isaiah 57:21; 1 Chronicles 16:10; Revelation 22:1-5).

—Mike Vestal

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to Glenna McCarty and her family in the loss of **Elder**. Elder passed from this life on Wednesday, June 28th at Madison Medical Resort. He had been in poor health for some time. Elder's services were held at Eisenhower Church of Christ Monday, July 3rd at 10:00 a.m. and he was laid to rest in Anson, TX.

Prayer Request

Linda Tate had a test done on Wednesday, July 5th. Please keep her in your prayers that she will get good results from the test.

Dayton Dennard (Dex's brother) underwent surgery on his hand June 29th to repair ligaments and nerve damage due to an accident that cut his left hand very badly. The surgery went well, but his hand is sore and he will not be able to move the hand for six weeks. Keep Dayton in your prayers.

We need to continue to keep **Elvia Ruckman** in our prayers. She is having a rough time and will have a trachea tube put back into her neck. Elvia is still scheduled to go through physical therapy. She is in the Long Term Care Unit—#411 at MCH.

Concerns Update

Russ Montgomery (Devida's brother) who had been experiencing shortness of breath and unable to walk for any distance, discovered the cause was a reaction from two prescribed medications. When he stopped taking one of the pills, he is now able to walk and breathe normal. Thanks for all of the prayers on his behalf.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell, Bill Bundick; Marie Bundick; Mitchell Bundick; Sissy Bundick; Linda and Sonny Coggins; John Cole; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; John Ford; Marjorie Foster; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Lon Howard; Janis Laminack; Eliseo Lopez; Glenna McCarty; Juan & Estella Morolez; Tanya Nichols; Curtis Parum; Trina Plyler; Elvia Ruckman; Charles Simmons; Cindy Starcher; James Stephens; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Michael & Jesse Vasquez; Jurlean Warren; James Weaver; Judy Wells; Lisa Wells; Ann Wilson; John Wood; Jack Wright;

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley; and Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

What was the name of Moses's brother?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer... The Apostle Paul said, "Lo, we turn to the Gentiles. For so hath the Lord commanded us saying...I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles. The major prophet Paul was quoting was Isaiah 42:6.

Events

Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the "**Speaking the Truth in Love**" program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

The "**Tipton Children's Home**" will be here August 1st–3rd for their food drive. They have given us a list of the **Needed Items**: Assorted Cereal, Assorted Soups, Presweetened Kool Aid, Sloppy Joe Sauce, Canned Chili, Granulated Sugar, Miracle Whip, Squeeze Mustard, BBQ Sauce, Canned Pears, Sliced Peaches; **Supply List**: Liquid Laundry Detergent, Paper Towels, Toilet Tissue.

The "**New Mexico Children's Home**" will be back in Odessa September 7th, 2017. They are requesting **applesauce**. Monetary donations also accepted.

Attention Ladies... Ladies 60 years and up are invited to "**The Steel Magnolias' Summer Tea**" hosted by the teenage girls' class on Saturday, July 22nd at 10:30 a.m. in the Annex. Ladies, please mark your calendars for that date. Please sign the sign-up sheet that's on our bulletin board.

Office News

The **Odessa Christian School** has several teaching positions available for the next school year. They need teachers for the Pre-K, Elementary and Middle School classrooms. OSC is also in need of an Office Secretary. If interested in any of these positions, please call the Odessa Christian School office 362-6311.

NOTE: Sunday, July 30th is our "**Fifth Sunday Services**". We will have a potluck luncheon after the morning service followed by our P.M. service in the annex. We want to invite all our visitors to join us.

July 9, 2017

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Larry May
Cody Wesson
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Dex Dennard
Charles Wood
Mike Roemisch

P.M.

Larry May
Dex Dennard
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Cody Wesson
Scot Straw
Trinidad Wood

Lord's Supper

West...

Jeff Wesson
Tom Sorenson
Dylan Straw

Scot Straw
Communion
(In Library)

East...

Jacob Carson
Dex Dennard
Rudy Ochoa

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Larry May 638-3990; *Deacon*: Don Easlon 288-5834; *Pulpit*: Chris Butler 362-7486; *Table*: Scot Straw 368-7852; *Song Leaders*: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; *Recording Duties*: Bill Ryan 272-5507; *Collections*: Bill Ryan 272-5507

Sunday AM

"Free Moral Agency"
(Romans 7:13-20)

Sunday PM

"Peter's Denial"
(Matthew 26:69-75)

Our Records

Bible Class... 61
Morning Worship...100
Evening Worship...52
Wednesday...100
Contribution...\$4,591.00