KNOWING GOD

LESSON 17

Title: The Holiness of God

Text: Leviticus 9:1-2, Isaiah 6:1-7

1. **Review:**
   1. Love is an emotional identification.
   2. Love demands action.
   3. Deuteronomy 7:6-8a is the only explanation we have for God loving us–– “because the Lord loved you.” It is merely an exercise of goodness from God who is love and who sovereignly chose to love sinners like you and me.
2. **Attempting to define holiness**
   1. To be set apart.
   2. In the New Testament the Greek word is often translated “sanctified.”
   3. When we say God is holy we mean He is free from all impurity and defilement; He is wholly pure.
3. **Unholy: the characteristic of mankind since the fall.**
   1. “The moral shock suffered by us through our mighty break with the high will of heaven has left us all with a permanent trauma affecting every part of our nature. There is a disease both in ourselves and our environment.” ––A.W. Tozer
   2. The English word *holy,* is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word *halig* which means *well, whole*.
   3. Isaiah calls his nation back to holy living; he describes their condition because of the absence of holiness. (Isaiah 1:4-6)
      1. They are sick from head to foot.
      2. No soundness, but sores and sickness.
   4. This is true of any individual or society who leaves God.
   5. God has made holiness the moral condition necessary to the health of the universe.
4. **God requires holiness of His people that can only be imputed to them by Himself. (1 Peter 1:15-16)**
   1. Man is not innately holy.
   2. We can by no means generate holiness; it opposes our nature.
   3. How can we obey God’s command to be holy?
      1. Holiness is imputed by faith. (Romans 4:1-6, 19-25)
      2. Holiness comes by believing the Gospel and receiving Jesus Christ.
      3. Jesus is your holiness, your righteousness, and all that you are required to be before God.
5. **Conclusion:** Holiness is not religious notions or rituals. Holiness is imputed to us by faith in Jesus Christ and is seen in us by others in as much as we submit to the Spirit of God.