



**Holy, Holy,  
Holy is the  
Lord God  
Almighty**

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# Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty!

When we begin to grasp the reality of God's holiness, it is at the same time the most comforting and terrifying realization.

We need to gain understanding as to why we love unholy things.

To understand how God make us Holy – it is the process of us being with him, looking upon him, and following him that changes us to become like him.

*Rev 4:2 At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. 3 And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian. A rainbow, resembling an emerald, encircled the throne.*

*In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. 7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. 8 Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying:*

*"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come."*

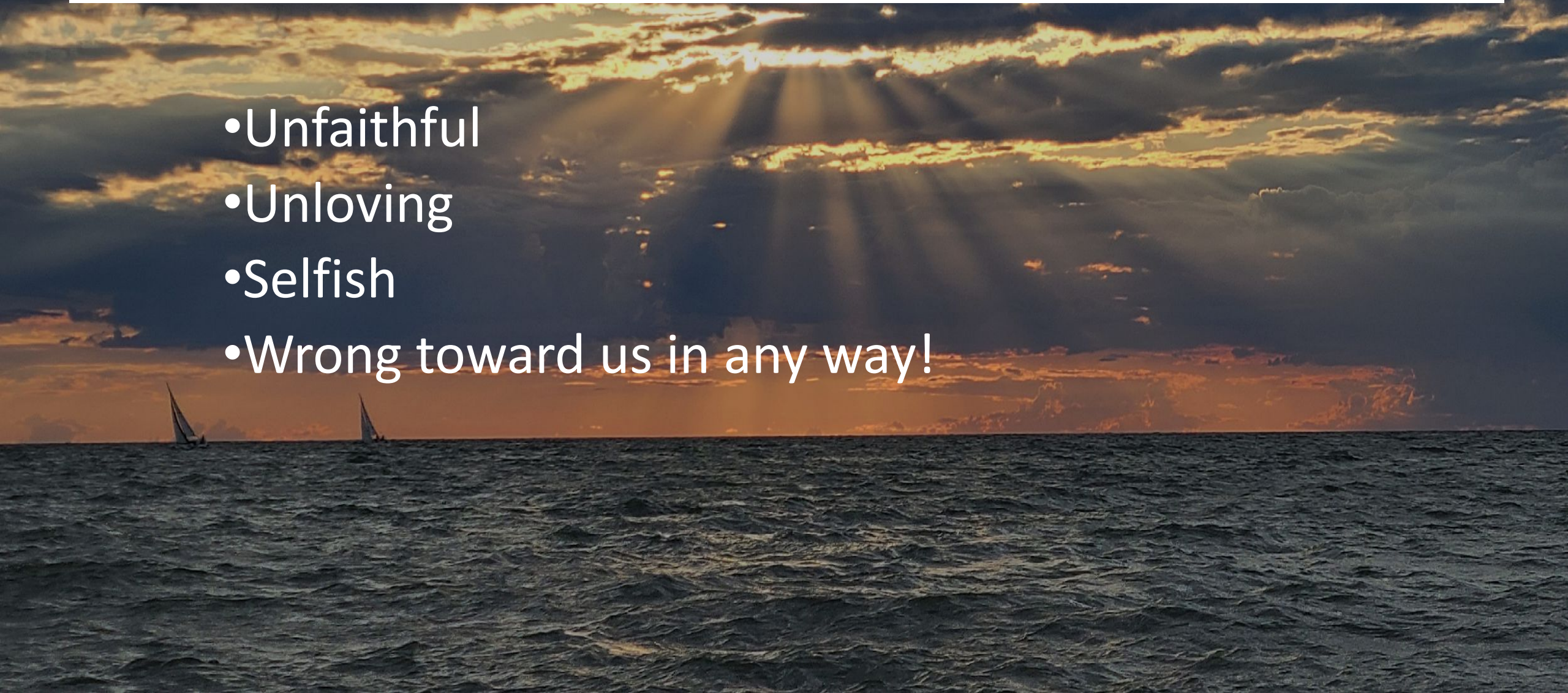
*Rev 4:9 Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:*

*11 "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."*



**Because God is Holy and cannot sin, he cannot (by his nature) be:**

- Unfaithful
- Unloving
- Selfish
- Wrong toward us in any way!



# Because God can be trusted we can know:

- He is for us (Rom 8:31)
- He will never leave us or forsake us (Heb 13:5-6)
- He will complete the work he started in us (Php 1:6)
- He will lead us in his goodness (Ps 23:6)

# The absolute fear of comprehending God is Holy

1) He cannot overlook or pretend that sin is OK

**Nah 1:3 The LORD is slow to anger and great in power; the LORD will not leave the guilty unpunished.**


2) He will judge each person objectively – no favorites

**Ps 98:8 Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy; 9 let them sing before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.**

3) He must eliminate sin from his presence

**Hab 1:13 Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong.**



A dramatic sunset over the ocean. The sun is partially obscured by dark, heavy clouds, with bright rays of light breaking through the gaps, creating a 'crepuscular rays' effect. The sky transitions from deep blue at the top to a warm orange and yellow near the horizon. The dark, choppy water of the ocean occupies the bottom half of the frame. In the distance, the silhouettes of a few sailboats are visible on the horizon line.

When we start to comprehend  
God's holiness, we cannot help  
but live differently.

# Why do we love the unholy?

*Ex 32:1 When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him."*

*2 Aaron answered them, "Take off the gold earrings that your wives, your sons and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me." 3 So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron. 4 He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Then they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt."*

*5 When Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of the calf and announced, "Tomorrow there will be a festival to the LORD." 6 So the next day the people rose early and sacrificed burnt offerings and presented fellowship offerings. Afterward they sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.*

# Made things are...

- **Lifeless** – created things only have the life in them granted by God
- **Limited** – all created things are finite.
- **Local** – created things can only be in one place at one time
- **Unprofitable** – pleasures fade, people die, careers end, stuff falls apart.

# Bad trades...

Rom 1:24 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. 25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator-who is forever praised. Amen.

# Compare this to our God

Isa 50:2 Was my arm too short to ransom you? Do I lack the strength to rescue you?

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life.



# Why we pursue the unholy

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We have needs...

... that we think God can't meet.

# Why are idols foolish?



Jer 2:13 "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.



Choose the spring of living water!

1 Sam 2:2 "There is no one holy like the LORD; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God."

1 Kings 18:21 Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him."

1 Sam 12:20 "Do not be afraid," Samuel replied. "You have done all this evil; yet do not turn away from the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. 21 Do not turn away after useless idols. They can do you no good, nor can they rescue you, because they are useless."



**God works in us to make us Holy –**

**being with him,  
looking upon him,  
and following him**

# How do we become holy?

John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Gal 3:2 I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? 3 Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?

# Seeing is becoming

For bad:

Ps 115:3 Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him.  
4 But their idols are silver and gold, made by the hands of men.  
5 They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but they cannot see;  
6 they have ears, but cannot hear, noses, but they cannot smell;  
7 they have hands, but cannot feel, feet, but they cannot walk;  
nor can they utter a sound with their throats. 8 Those who make them will be like them, and so will all who trust in them.

# Seeing is becoming

And for good:

1 John 3:1 How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 3 Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

# Be transformed

2 Cor 3:16 But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.



**Transformed  
(metamorphoo)**

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Rom 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Eph 5:25b Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word



Beloved, now we are children of God...  
we know that when He is revealed,  
we shall be like Him,  
for we shall see  
Him as He is.

1 John 3:2

