



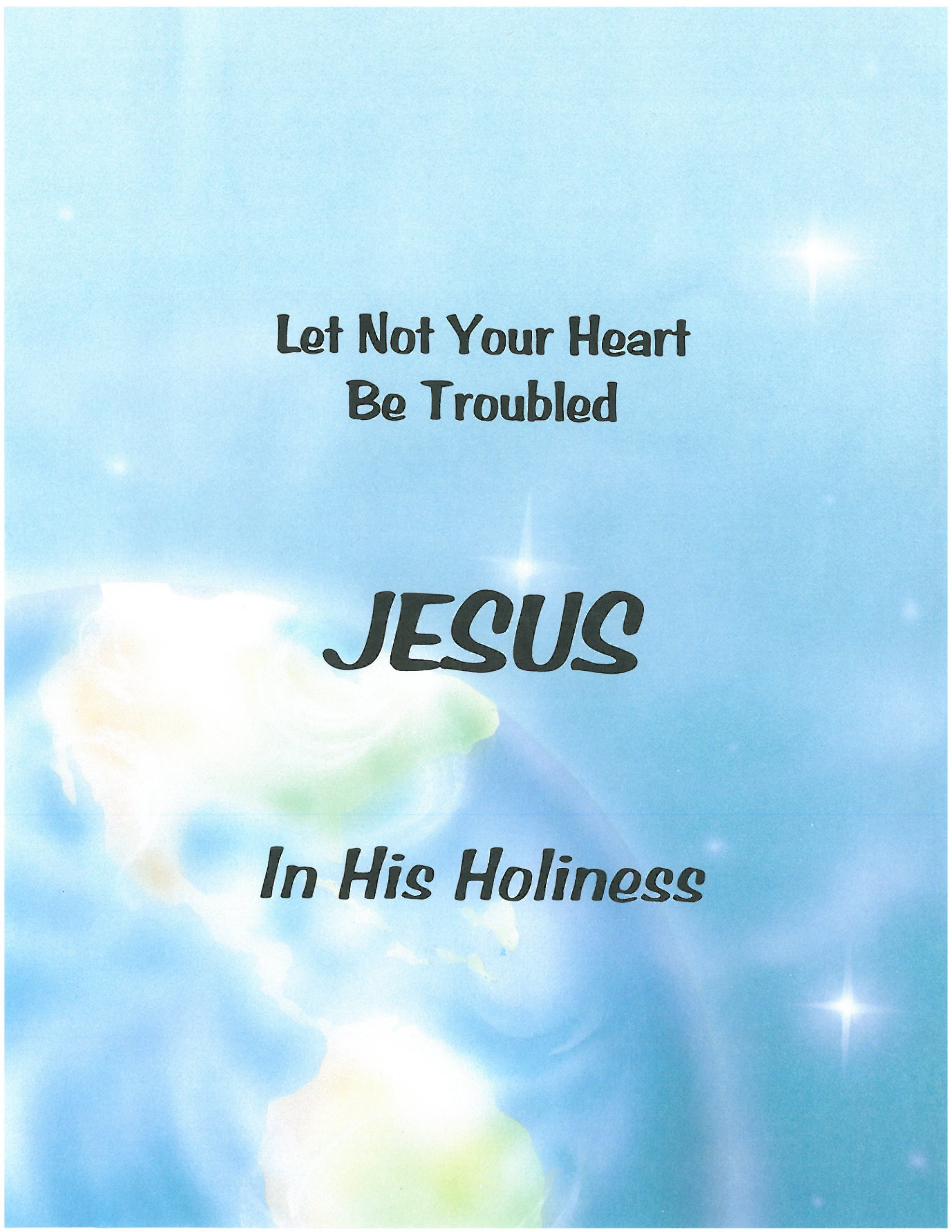
Colossians 2:2-3

Staying Up Higher Ministry

Additional Teachings

**Let Not Your Heart
Be Troubled
(John 14:1)**

**JESUS,
In His Holiness**



**Let Not Your Heart
Be Troubled**

JESUS

In His Holiness

Jesus said:

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me."

Good Morning. Last month we began our teaching entitled "Let Not Your Heart be Troubled."

Our theme comes from John 14:1, a familiar passage to us all. Our Lord was having intimate time with His discouraged and frightened disciples.

They were fearful and discouraged and Jesus said to them:

"Let not your hearts be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in Me."

He wanted them to believe on Him, to consciously trust Him to care for them and provide for them in all of their circumstances. He wants the same for us. He wants us to believe on Him.

Now, when the Lord said to believe on Him, we discovered that the word has a little deeper meaning that we might have thought.

In Vincent's Word Studies in the New Testament, this word 'believe', in this context, is defined this way:

To believe in, or on, is more than mere acceptance of a statement. It is so to accept a statement or a person as to rest upon them, to trust them practically; to draw upon and avail oneself of all that is offered to him in them.

It is the absolute transference of trust from oneself to another, for all things.

"To avail ourselves of all that is offered to us in Him ..."

What a dynamic relationship we have with Jesus. He wants us to 'avail' ourselves of all that is in Him.

In essence what He is saying is, "I want you to trust me to be to you all that I am."

The early church experienced this covenant relationship and we want to experience it as well. As John says, "Out of His fullness we all received, grace upon grace." Out of His fullness ... we received ... we receive out of His fullness through active faith, by believing on Him.

Last month we came to understand that to avail ourselves of all that is in Him, we need to come to know Him first. That makes sense.

For example, we oftentimes feel so weak, so 'in need', of strength. Our lives are full of stress and pressure. He says "Believe on Me for your strength. Trust Me to be your strength."

But in order for us to avail ourselves of 'His Power' and strength for our lives, we need to 'know' of His power. We need to be confident that He is 'able' to perform, to bring about all that He promises.

And how can we arrive at such confidence?

Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17

Faith and confidence in Jesus is born from the word of God.

Now, let's let the Holy Spirit, through the word take us higher in our conceptions of Jesus and experience for ourselves how the hearing of the word produces faith in our hearts.

Let's review what we looked at last month as we behold Him once again as the Lord of Hosts.

Be conscious of your faith rising and your hearts becoming less troubled as you 'see' Jesus once again in His power.

Let's look at the scope of His realm again. Scripture teaches that:

- He is Lord of the angelic hosts above. He created all angelic beings and they carry out His will and purpose on our behalf, as Hezekiah learned when one angel, at our Lord's command, slew 185,000 Assyrians (II Kings 19:35, Isaiah 37:36).
- Jesus is also the Lord of all feathered hosts of the sky. His power brought the birds into being and they willingly act as messengers when needed, as Elijah discovered when the ravens fed him (I Kings 17:1-6).

- God is Lord of the animal hosts, as Daniel experienced when He closed the lion's mouths (Daniel 6:22).
- God is Lord over all human hosts and would have us cease from fearing man (Proverbs 21:1; Exodus 34:24)
Proverbs 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes (Ephesians 1:1; James 4:13, 15; Proverbs 16:9; Psalm 31:15; 37:7).
- As to the hellish hosts, God is supreme over that realm, as we see in the book of Job (Job 1:6-12; 2:1-6; Matthew 8:29; Mark 1:27).
- God is likewise the Lord of all the stellar hosts: the sun, the moon, and the stars. They are His handiwork. Having created them, He controls them, as Joshua realized when God made the sun stand still as he fought to victory over the Amalekites (Joshua 10:13). "The heavens declare the glory (the power) of God" (Psalm 19:1).
- The wind blows where He pleases. "Then Jesus arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace, be still.' And the wind ceased and there was a great calm." The disciples expressed that even the winds and the sea obey Him (Mark 4:41).
- All heavenly bodies move at His bidding. "When (the wise men) heard the king, they departed and behold the star which they had seen in the East went before them." (God caused it to go before them) (Matthew 2:9)

Now in a matter of a few minutes, your conceptions of Jesus have begun to change as the Holy Spirit has ministered truth to you: the truth about who Jesus is. "He" has not changed, but your perceptions of Him have changed. You are 'seeing' Him more as He is.

Now, we move on to today's teaching to behold Him in another aspect of His glory. Today's teaching is entitled, "Jesus in His Holiness."

I've asked the Lord to lift the veils of our hearts in order for us to receive a glimpse of His holiness and that we would leave today different because we have seen more of His glory.

During my reflection time on God's Holiness, I came to understand something very important for our understanding of holiness. I came to understand that the foundational revelation of holiness is seen in the passages where God is personally **encountered**.

For example, remember Moses' **encounter** at the burning bush in Exodus 3. Let me read it for you.

Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the back or west side of the wilderness, and came to Horeb or Sinai, the mountain of God. The Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush burned with fire, yet was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush is not burned. And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here am I". God said, "Do not come near; put your shoes off your feet, for the place on which you stand is holy ground."

Now God commanded Moses not to come any closer and to remove his sandals. Why to remove his sandals?

You see, God told him to remove his sandals in order to prevent him from rashly intruding into His presence, to stop him.

A teaching here for Moses? Yes! It was to teach him that God was **separate** and **distinct** from mortal man and all creation.

This is the first occurrence of the noun 'holy' in scripture.

So you see, God's first move in revealing Himself to Moses is to declare His Holiness, His separateness, and His distinctness.

Now this declaration of God's holiness to Moses and Israel reached its peak by a blazing restatement of the same truth.

The flame of God's holiness that began in Exodus 3 at the burning bush, becomes an awesome mountain of fire, blazing up into heaven in Exodus 19.

Remember Israel at Mt Sinai:

- 12 And you shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, "Beware that you do not go up on the mountain or touch the border of it; whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death."
- 16 So it came about on the third day, when it was morning, that there were thunder and lightning flashes and a thick cloud upon the mountain and a very loud trumpet sound, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled.
- 17 And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain.
- 18 Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly.
- 21 And the Lord said to Moses, "Go down and warn the people, lest they break through to gaze at the Lord, and many of them perish.
- 22 But Moses said to the Lord, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai; for You warned us, saying, 'Set bounds around the mountain and consecrate it.'"

The boundaries set were due to God's holiness.

As we move on, we see in scripture Isaiah's **encounter** with God in the temple in Isaiah 6.

Isaiah 6:1-3:

In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings; with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory."

The prophet is allowed a glimpse into the 'reality' of heaven, where the seraphim cry to one another ...

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts!

In Isaiah's vision, this holy God is high and lifted up - great and exalted - seated on a throne. Set apart from all that He has made. He is the only truly self-sufficient Being. He is Holy. His glory fills all the earth and His presence fills Isaiah with a sense of incredible guilt and an intense need for forgiveness (moral purity).

Finally, we look at John's vision on the Island of Patmos in Revelation 4 where we find his **encounter** with God. We again see the heavenly court in unceasing worship:

After these things I looked and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, "Come up here ..." Immediately, I was in the spirit and beheld a throne set in heaven and One sat on the throne ... and the vision continues with the four living creatures singing, "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come."

John has a glimpse of the seat of power. He has a glimpse of the glories of the heavenly world and the One seated on a throne – he has a glimpse of The Holy One, separate, and distinct, ruling over all his creatures and the course of history.

Now, in these **encounters** of seeing and meeting God, the central aspects of His holiness stand out clearly.

So, as we see when the Bible calls God 'holy', it means that God is separate from all that has been created. He is transcendentally separate.

I think, for most of us the word purity comes into our minds when we hear the word 'holy.' The Bible does use the word this way. But, the idea of purity or of moral perfection is at best the secondary meaning, not the first, which is important for us to see.

When the seraphim, in the Book of Revelation, sang their song, they were saying far more than God was purity, purity, purity.

It might help us at this point to know that the primary meaning for the word 'holy' comes from an ancient word that meant "to cut" or "to separate" Thomas Trevethan in his book, The Beauty of God's Holiness says this:

Holy apparently comes from a Semitic root that means "to cut." Hence its basic meaning is "to separate" or "to make distinct" (as in "to cut off"). Most fundamentally, as a divine attribute it claims that God is other and set apart from everything else, that He is in a class by Himself. God is not just quantitatively greater than us, but qualitatively different in His greatness. He is transcendent, infinitely above or beyond us. The true God is distinct,

set apart, from all that He has made as the only truly self-sufficient Being. All His creatures depend on Him; He alone exists from within Himself.

Holy is the most intimately divine word in the Bible. It is that in God which marks Him off as God. To say that He is holy is to say that He is God. Holiness, in scripture, is the fundamental attribute of God that conditions and qualifies all other attributes.

So, when the Bible calls God 'holy', it means primarily that God is "transcendently separate." He exists above and independent of material existence or the universe.

As we saw, purity is not excluded from the idea of the holy; it is contained within it. But the point we must remember is that the idea of holy is never exhausted by the idea of purity. Its primary definition is transcendence. He is transcendent. He is transcendently pure. God exists above and independent of material experience or the universe.

The definition for holy includes purity, but is much more than that. It is purity and transcendence. It is a transcendent purity.

Holy calls attention to the transcendence of God, the sense in which He is above and beyond our world.

*Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts!
... is the LORD OF HOSTS! Isaiah 6:3*

The heavens declare the glory of God, not their own glory. They majestically speak of the holiness, the transcendent separateness of their Creator and His limitless capacity.

Let me share some thoughts from A.W. Tozer taken from his book, The Knowledge of the Holy:

"The church has surrendered her once lofty concept of God and has substituted for it one so low, so ignoble, as to be utterly unworthy of thinking, worshiping men. This she has done not deliberately, but little by little and without her knowledge; and her very unawareness only makes her situation all the more tragic.

The low view of God entertained almost universally among Christians is the cause of a hundred lesser evils everywhere among us.

With our loss of the sense of majesty has come the further loss of religious awe and consciousness of the divine Presence.

The only way to recoup our spiritual losses is to go back to the cause of them and make such corrections as the truth warrants. The decline of the knowledge of the holy has brought on our troubles. A rediscovery of the majesty of God will go a long way toward curing them. It is impossible to keep our moral practices sound and our inward attitudes right while our idea of God is erroneous or inadequate. If we would bring back spiritual power to our lives, we must begin to think of God more nearly as He is."

You might be asking some questions at this point.

How does coming to 'see' Jesus in His holiness, in His transcendence affect me where I am in my circumstances?

How does such a lofty subject help me where I am in my circumstances?

Lets go back to Moses and see how the revelation of God's holiness, His divine transcendence affected him. We may glean some insight for ourselves personally.

Turn with me to Hebrews 11:24, for those who have Bibles.

24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,

25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,

26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

2594 *kartereo*; to be strong, steadfast, firm, to endure, hold out, bear the burden. In Hebrews 11:27, it means that Moses endured exile with strength and courage.

As seeing him who is invisible. Since he saw, etc. The emphasis is on invisible, pointing back to the introductory definition of faith. The word is used of God, Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17.

Moses endured as 'seeing' Him who is unseen, as we see in the book of Exodus. His life choices were based on having seen the holiness of God, His transcendence,

His separateness, and His obvious supremacy. He carried out his life and ministry as seeing Him who is invisible.

This gave Moses the confidence that God was able to fulfill His promises regarding Israel's redemption, regarding his own life, and all that God called him to do. This particular revelation of our Lord's glory does the same for us.

Another quote from "The Knowledge of The Holy" by A.W. Tozer:

What comes into our mind when we think about God is the most important thing about us.

Were we able to extract from any man a complete answer to the question, "What comes into your mind when you think about God?" we might predict with certainty the spiritual future of that man.

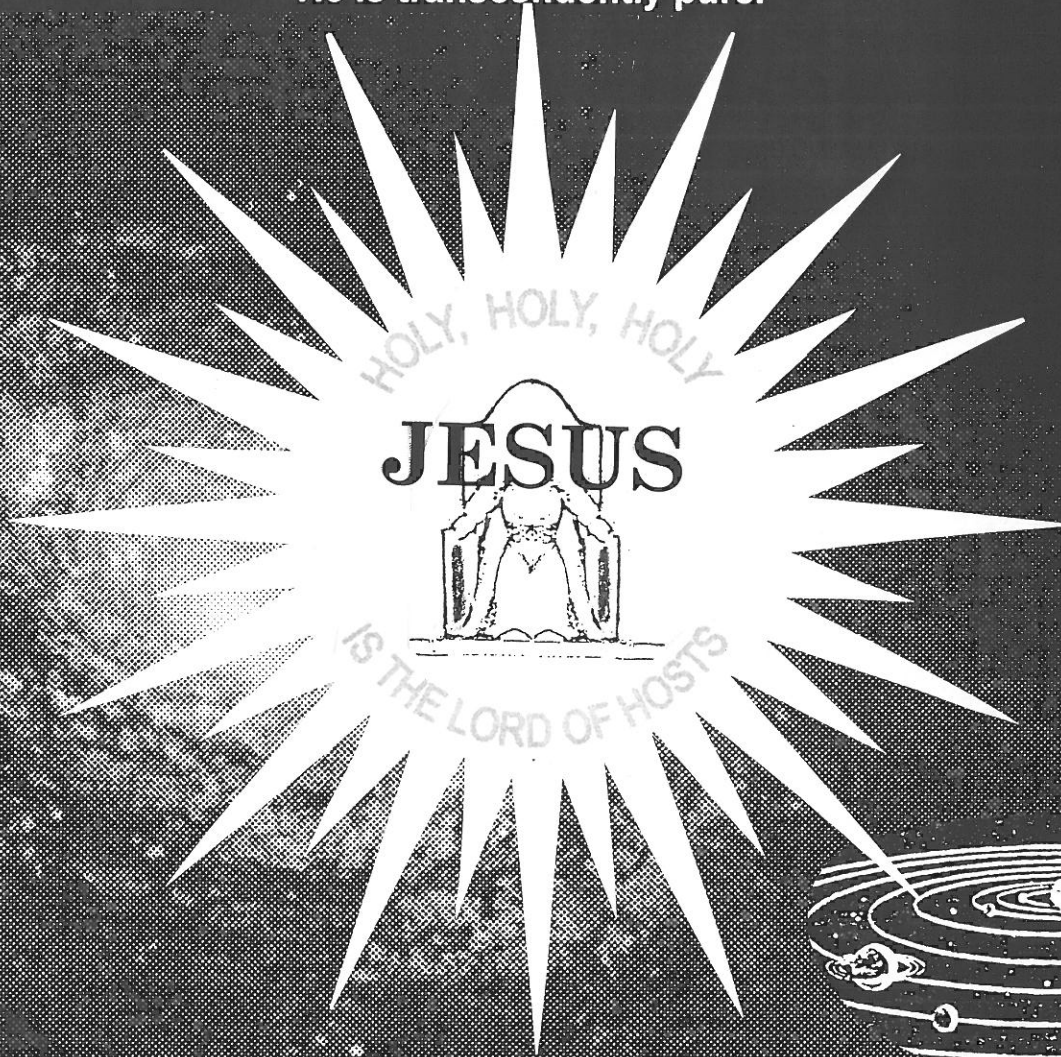
JESUS IS HOLY!

Work with the overhead

The questions before us are:

- Do we 'see' Jesus in His holiness?
- How can seeing Him 'this way' affect us where we are in our individual circumstances?
- What has been happening to us because we don't view Him as "He is"?

The Holy One is High and Exalted - Sovereign Lord of all.
He is transcendentally separate from all that He has created.
He upholds all of His creation by the word of His power.
He is transcendentally pure.



He upholds the universe by the Word of His power. Hebrews 1:3

~ The Holy One ~

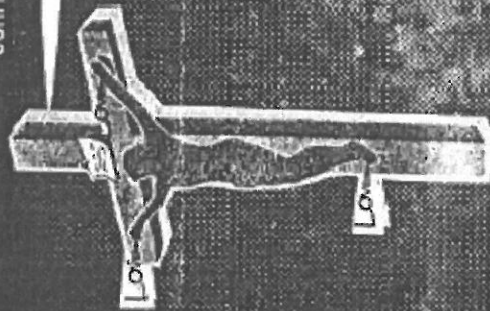
- Moses saw our Lord in the burning bush as separate and distinct (Ex 3).
- Isaiah saw our Lord as high and lifted up, transcendentally pure (Isa 6).
- John saw our Lord in His eternalness, His sovereignty guiding the affairs of history (Rev 4).

“...we see Jesus... crowned
with glory and honor...” Hebrews 2:9

JESUS IS THE LORD OF HOSTS THE GRAIN OF WHEAT

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

John 3:16-17



Jesus says, "I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, Unless a Grain of Wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains [just one grain; it never becomes more but lives] by itself alone. But if it dies, it produces many others ..." John 12:24 Amplified Bible

JESUS, IN HIS ASCENSION

John saw Him in His glory and it changed his life... "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, says the Lord who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty (Hebrew: Lord of Hosts). I turned to see the voice that spoke with me, and having turned, I saw One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet... and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last."

Jesus says, "I am He Who lives and was dead, and behold I am alive forevermore (not merely I live, but I have life and am the source of life to my people). I have the keys of the unseen realm" (Revelation 1:8, 12-18).

RELY UPON JESUS AS

THE LORD OF HOSTS

Rely on all of His resources; "out of His fullness we have all received" John 1:16.

- His Forgiveness of sins Eph 1:7
- His Power Colossians 1:29
- His Peace John 16:33
- His Joy John 15:11
- His Wisdom James 1:5
- His Guidance Proverbs 3:6
- His Authority Luke 10:19
- His Healing Isa 53:4-5; II Peter 2:24

"Surely He has borne our sicknesses and carried our pains; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:4-5; II Peter 2:24

BORN AGAIN-
NEW LIFE IN CHRIST
II Corinthians 5:17

CHRIST

NAME

TRUST ME TO BE TO YOU ALL THAT I AM

"Christ now lives in me; and the life I now live (His life, its fullness and power) I live by (continuous) faith in (by adherence to and reliance on and complete trust in) the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself up for me" Galatians 2:20 Amplified Bible.

JESUS SAYS:

**Trust ME, to be to you
all that I AM...**