

Q2 SSP 2026

**GROWING IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH
GOD**

NINA ATCHESON

No lesson one

L2-TO KNOW GOD

James Rafferty 2026 Q2 L2 God is Holy

Monday

April 6

God Is Holy

Holiness is not a word that people use very often in their everyday language, perhaps

because there are so few holy things around us. The Sabbath is a holy day in time, and God is, of course, holy. But our everyday lives lack holiness.

If you do a study into the attributes most often associated with God's character, you'll discover that holiness is at the center of who God is. But what does that mean?

How do the following passages describe God:
- Leviticus 20:26, "And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, (#6918 sacred) and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine."

- 1 Samuel 2:2, "There is none holy (#7337 "to broaden") as the LORD: For there is none beside thee: Neither is there any rock like our God."

1 Samuel 2:2

- Isaiah 57:15, "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; (#6918 sacred) I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."

Isaiah 57:15 KJV

- Ezekiel 38:23, NIV -"And so I will show My greatness and My holiness (#6942 to be clean), and I will make Myself known in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the Lord.' "

When the Bible describes God as the epitome of holiness, it means that He is completely void of and completely separated from evil and sin.

God is 100 percent good from beginning to end. In this sense, God's holiness is the foundation of all His other attributes.

For example, God's love is a pure, holy love—a love that is completely free from all selfishness and egotistic motives. His omniscience (all-knowing) is holy omniscience, meaning it is free from evil intentions. Would you trust an omniscient God if He weren't holy? Instead, we would, and rightly so, be afraid of Him.

God's omnipotence (being all-powerful) is holy omnipotence. Imagine a God who is omnipotent but not holy. He could be a powerful, evil tyrant. Only God's holiness allows and enables us to really love Him, because He is good from beginning to end. This is why holiness is perhaps the most important characteristic to understand about God's character. Yet, perhaps, it is one of the most misunderstood as well.

Think about Bible characters such as Moses, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, and John, who came into God's presence. What was their first response? They removed their shoes, hid their faces, or fell down as though dead. As human beings, we are sinful and so unholy that we can't bear to stand in God's presence. Any human who looks at God's face will not live. Similarly, when Ellen G. White went into vision, she often cried, "Holy . . . holy . . . holy," because it was the one word that seemed to capture most what she saw. And, of course, the four living creatures do not rest day or night without saying, " 'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!' " (Rev. 4:8, NKJV).

Truly, God is pure holiness, and when we come to Him, we must see Him as such. How does knowing this inspire you? In what ways does this challenge you regarding your own character?

