

Genesis 1

God's Holiness -

- separate/otherness
- separate from uncleanness and evil
- unapproachable by sinners apart from HOLY Sacrifice
- everything associated with God must be Holy.

Walk through Genesis 1 and 2 again.

The amazing relationship God chooses to have with His creation.

What does it mean to be an image bearer? (1:27)

- Living soul (being) separate from all other created things...(2:7) Holiness - Otherness from creation like God's Holiness is otherness from everything else.
- Created good and clean (versus evil and unclean)
- Able to approach God (humanness with God)
- Called to be workers (like God's work in creation) (2:15)
- Called to be vassal kings (kings subordinate to the High King) "have dominion" (1:28)
- Priest/Builder (2:15)

3:3

Adam's role of priest - Eve knew what God expected.

3:4

Satan lies— "you will not die"

3:5

Eve's focus on the creation, not the creator, desire for more.

3:6

Mankind's Fall into Sin

Man's otherness is now separated from God.

Man now is unclean and evil - separated from God because of His holiness.

Unable to approach God without a HOLY SACRIFICE.

Every part of us must be Holy to be associated with God.

Adam's call to have dominion - failed.

Adam's call to be a king - failed.

Adam's call to be a priest/builder - failed.

In God's judgement, His mercy, grace and love are still present.

Already — not yet.

Genesis 6:5

"Then Yahweh saw that the evil of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Now the earth was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth."

(Genesis 6:5, 11-12 LSB)

“But know this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, without gentleness, without love for good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to a form of godliness, but having denied its power. Keep away from such men as these. For among them are those who enter into households and take captive weak women weighed down with sins, being led on by various desires, always learning and never able to come to the full knowledge of the truth. (13) But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.”
(2 Timothy 3:1–7, 13 LSB)

Jeremiah 17: 9

““The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can know it?”
(Jeremiah 17:9 LSB)

Psalms 14

The wicked fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”

They act corruptly, they commit abominable deeds;

There is no one who does good.

Psa. 14:2 Yahweh looks down from heaven upon the sons of men

To see if there is anyone who has insight,

Anyone who seeks after God.

Psa. 14:3 They have all turned aside, altogether they have become worthless;

There is no one who does good, not even one.

Psa. 14:4 ¶ Do all the workers of iniquity not know,

Who beat up my people as they eat bread,

And do not call upon Yahweh?

Psa. 14:5 There they are in great dread,

For God is with the righteous generation.

Psa. 14:6 You would put to shame the counsel of the afflicted,

But Yahweh is his refuge.

Psa. 14:7 ¶ Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion!

When Yahweh restores His captive people,

May Jacob rejoice, may Israel be glad.

(Psalms 53:1–5 LSB)

The wicked fool says in his heart, “There is no God,” They act corruptly, and commit abominable injustice; There is no one who does good.

God looks down from heaven upon the sons of men To see if there is anyone who has insight, Anyone who seeks after God.

Every one of them has turned back; together they have become worthless; There is no one who does good, not even one.

Do the workers of iniquity not know, Who eat up my people as they eat bread And do not call upon God?

There they were in great dread where no dread had been; For God scattered the bones of him who encamped against you; You put them to shame, because God had rejected them.”

Romans 3:10

“as it is written, “THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;

THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD;

ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME WORTHLESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE.”

“THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN TOMB, WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING,” “THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS”;

“WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS”;

“THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD,
DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS,
AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN.”

“THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES.””

(Romans 3:10–18 LSB)

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”

(Romans 3:23 LSB)

“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—”

(Romans 5:12 LSB)

“For the wages of sin is death

(Romans 6:23 LSB)

Think back to God’s Holiness. God’s Holiness means set apart from sinners apart from a Holy Sacrifice. What does it mean to be saved then? How can we be saved?

““What are your multiplied sacrifices to Me?” Says Yahweh. “I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams And the fat of fed cattle; And in the blood of bulls, lambs, or goats I take no pleasure. (Isaiah 1:11)

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.” (Hebrews 10:4 LSB)

Sins against an eternal God have to be paid for with an eternal sacrifice. This is why Jesus Christ is the only acceptable sacrifice for our sins.

“Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, also was sacrificed.

(1 Corinthians 5:7 LSB)

and walk in love, just as Christ also loved us and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.”(Ephesians 5:2 LSB)

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gracious gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

(Romans 6:23 LSB)

“Now I make known to you, brothers, the gospel which I proclaimed as good news to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I proclaimed to you as good news, unless you believed for nothing.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,”

(1 Corinthians 15:1–4 LSB)

“By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10 LSB)

Jeremiah 5:3 O Yahweh, do not Your eyes look for faithfulness? You have struck them, But they did not weaken; You have consumed them, But they refused to receive discipline. They have made their faces stronger than rock; They have refused to **repent**.

Jeremiah 15:7 And I will winnow them with a winnowing fork At the gates of the land; I will bereave them of children; I will make My people perish; They did not **repent** of their ways.

Matthew 3:2; “**repent**, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Matthew 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach and say, “**repent**, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Matthew 11:20 Then He began to denounce the cities in which most of His miracles were done, because they did not **repent**.

Mark 1:15 and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; **repent** and believe in the gospel.”

Mark 6:12 And they went out and preached that men should **repent**.

Luke 13:3, 5 I tell you, no, but unless you **repent**, you will all likewise perish. I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

Luke 16:30 But he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will **repent**!’

Luke 17:4 And if he sins against you seven times a day, and returns to you seven times, saying, ‘I **repent**,’ forgive him.”

Acts 2:38 And Peter said to them, “**repent**, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 3:19 Therefore **repent** and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord;

Acts 8:22 Therefore **repent** of this wickedness of yours, and pray earnestly to the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

Acts 17:30 Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now commanding men that everyone everywhere should **repent**,

Revelation 2:5, 16, 21–22; 3:3, 19; 9:20–21; 16:9, 11 LSB)

Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and **repent** and do the deeds you did at first. But if not, I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place, unless you **repent**.

Therefore **repent**. But if not, I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth.

And I gave her time to **repent**, and she does not wish to **repent** of her sexual immorality. Behold, I will throw her on a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they **repent** of her deeds.

So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and **repent**. Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you. Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline. Therefore be zealous and **repent**.

And the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not **repent** of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. And they did not **repent** of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their sexual immorality nor of their thefts.

And men were scorched with fierce heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has the authority over these plagues, and they did not **repent** so as to give Him glory. and they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and they did not **repent** of their deeds.”

“Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners will be **converted** to You.”
(Psalm 51:13 LSB)

“and said, “Truly I say to you, unless you are **converted** and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”
(Matthew 18:3 LSB)

Hebrew word: converted/repent - shuv - turn back, return

Greek word: metaneo - change one’s purpose, turn away, turn to.

- Do not turn to other gods
- do not turn to wickedness
- turn to yahweh
- do not turn to right or left
- turn to me (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Acts 26:20)

Acts 26:20 but kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, that they should **repent** and **turn to God, practicing deeds appropriate to repentance**.

“So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; “for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.”
(Philippians 2:12-13 LSB)

“Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”
(2 Corinthians 7:1 LSB)

“but examine all things; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely, and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He who calls you, who also will do it.”
(1 Thessalonians 5:21–24 LSB)

How do we know we do something for the right reason....

1. It's following the right standard (God's Law)
2. It's for the right goal (God's Glory)
3. motivated by love and faith.

We are responsible, answerable to God for all of our attitudes, thoughts, words and actions.

We have family members and friends that misunderstand this. How do I know?

- I got baptized when I was 15 (they are 40 now)
- I said a prayer and accepted Jesus (years ago, but I can live however I want, and the good things I do for others replace my "badness") In other words, I can be selfish in most parts of my life, but I gave a guy a sandwich once, and I'm good. God's okay with that.

Greg, aren't you being picky/judgy?

"Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then, you will know them by their fruits. **Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.** Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, in Your name did we not prophesy, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name do many miracles?' **And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'**"

(Matthew 7:17-23 LSB)

"Now why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and does them, I will show you whom he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug and went deep, and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the river burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who heard and did not do accordingly, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the river burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."'

(Luke 6:46-49 LSB)

"'He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake will find it."

(Matthew 10:37-39 LSB)

"'Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit. You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart. The good man brings out of his good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of his evil treasure what is evil. But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

(Matthew 12:33-37 LSB)