

# The Messenger



“... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15

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*Dedicated to the Proclamation of the Truth in the Spirit of Love (Ephesians 4:15)*

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## The Holy One of Israel

*by Dempsey Collins*

This designation becomes Isaiah’s characteristic description of God. It occurs 26 times in Isaiah and only six times elsewhere in the Old Testament.

12 times in Chapters 1 – 39

14 times in Chapters 40 – 66

In addition God is called the “Holy One of Jacob” twice (29:23; 40:25), the “Holy One” three times (10:17; 43:15; 49:7) and “Holy” (6:3; 57:15).

In Chapter 6, Isaiah was awestruck by God’s holiness and that theophany was forever burned in his mind.

From the beginning of His relationship with Israel, God taught faith and holiness as the ground of that relationship. “You shall be holy for I the Lord your God am holy” (Lev. 19:2).

Imitating the holiness of God is the ground upon which Israel was to build all relationships (Exodus 19:5, 6). Being set apart unto God according to His word is what defines God’s covenant people. At Mount Sinai, Israel was awestruck with the power and holiness of God. “In order that the fear of God would remain in them, so that they would not sin” (Exodus 20:20).

To truly know God, know our place in relation to Him, how to worship God, and live for God, we must all first be awestruck by His holiness and power (Rev. 4, 5).

By constantly reminding Israel of His own holiness God was also reminding Israel of their own unholiness and unworthiness. Since God is holy and Israel has chosen to be unholy she has broken the sinaitic covenant (Exodus 19-24), broken fellowship with God (1:4) and now await His wrath (1:20).

In John 12:41, John identifies the theophany of Isaiah 6 as the Lord and Savior of all mankind. (Also cp. Luke 4:34)

# A Sin Is a Sin

by Lowell Sallee

Sin is defined by God as: 1. “Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth the law: for sin is the transgression of the law” (I John 3:4). 2. “All unrighteousness is sin” (1 John 5:17). 3. “Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin” (James 4:17). 4. “And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin” (Romans 14:23).

Many times folks want to make exceptions as to what is sin and what is not sin. My friends, please understand that **sin is still sin**:

1. **Even when you don’t get caught.** The Bible teaches that God sees all. “The eyes of the Lord are in every place, watching the evil and the good” (Prov. 15:3). We may think that no one has seen us, but God has. Paul says it this way: “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to what he hath done, whether it be good or bad” (2 Cor. 5:10).
2. **Even if it is for a good cause.** Paul condemned the philosophy of “Let us do evil that good may come” (Rom. 3:8). Jesus said that there would be those that did evil that good would come. “Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? And in Thy name have cast out devils? And in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me ye that work iniquity” (Matt. 7:21-23). We may try to justify what we practice by saying, “Look at all the good we are doing,” but remember, “And whatsoever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him” (Col. 3:17).
3. **Even if your friends or others are doing worse things.** Some try to justify what they are doing (while committing sin) by saying that they are not as bad as “ol’ so and so.” The Bible does not teach that there are “little” sins. The Bible teaches that a sin is a sin, a sinner is a sinner, and to lie, in God’s eyes, is as bad as to commit murder (Rev. 21:8).
4. **Even if it is commonly accepted by others.** Many try to justify their sins by saying, “Everybody is doing it.” The word of God teaches that the majority of folks do the wrong thing (Matt. 7:21-23). The world today commonly accepts drinking wine, sex outside of marriage, divorce, etc. Just because the world commonly accepts these things as all right does not change God’s word (Gal. 5:19-21).

**The Bible teaches that a sin is a sin. Think about it friend.**