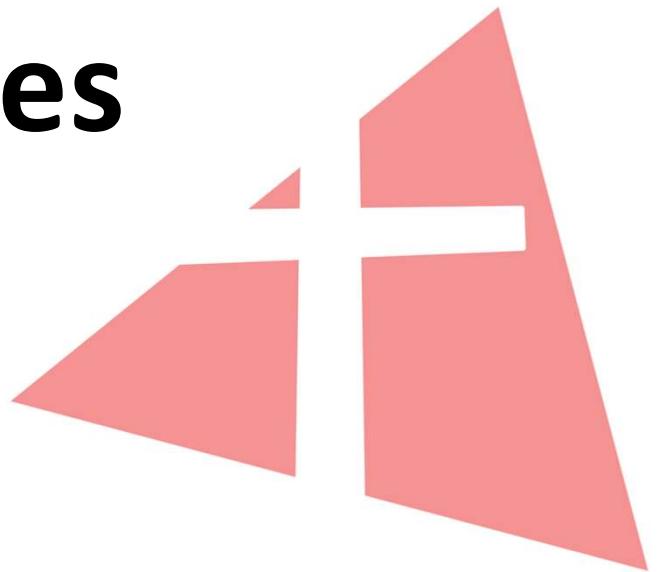


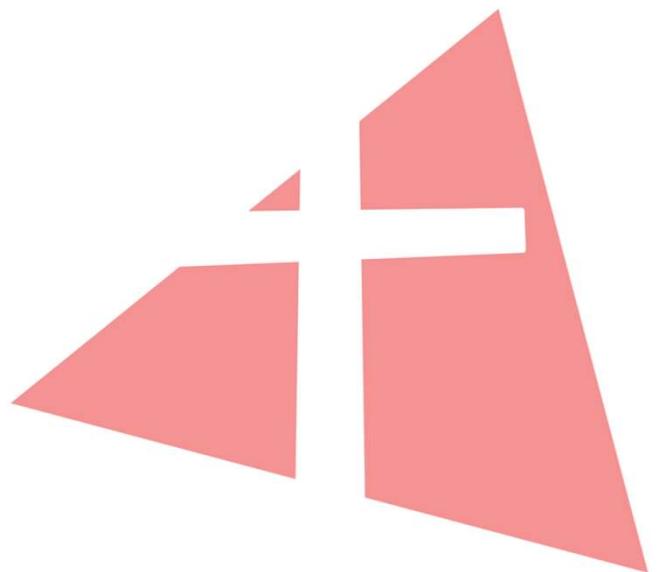
God is Holy, God Forgives

April 14th 2024



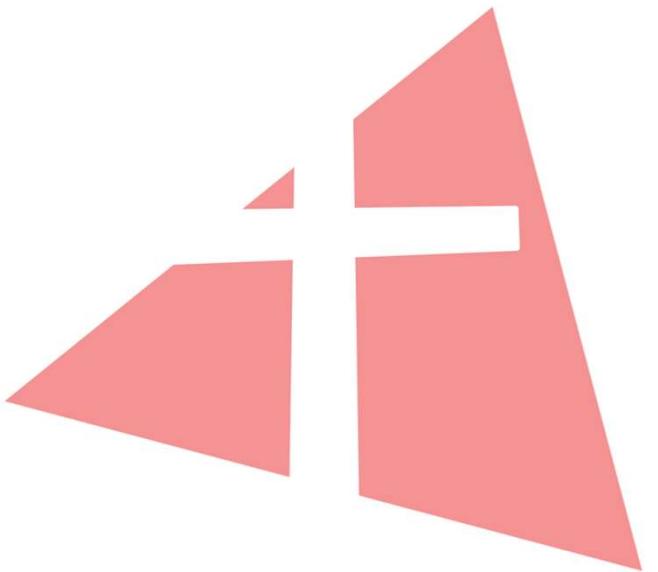
Last Week

- God is Love



Today's Focus

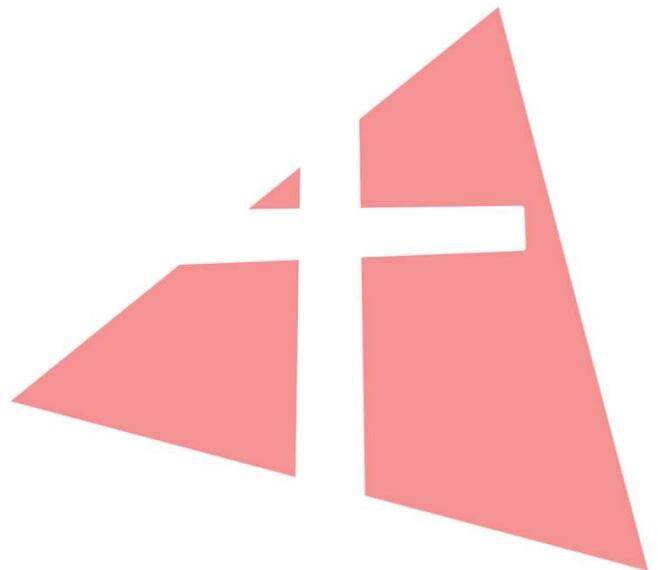
- God is Holy
- God forgives



God is Holy

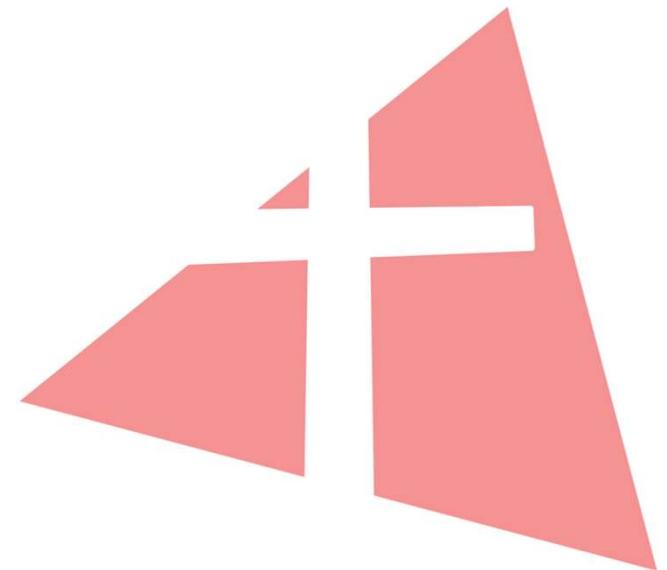
- Holy means “set apart”

The core idea of divine holiness is absolute moral purity



The Consequences of God's Holiness

- **Sinful beings perish in the presence of a Holy God**
 - Adam and Eve had to leave the Garden of Eden



Examples from the OT

Exodus 15:11 Who is like unto you, O LORD, among the gods? who is like you, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

1 Chronicles 16:29 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

Genesis 6:5-8 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for I am sorry that I have made them. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

Examples from the OT

Genesis 38:7 And Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD slew him.

Numbers 25:1 And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit harlotry with the daughters of Moab.

...

Numbers 25:9 And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand.

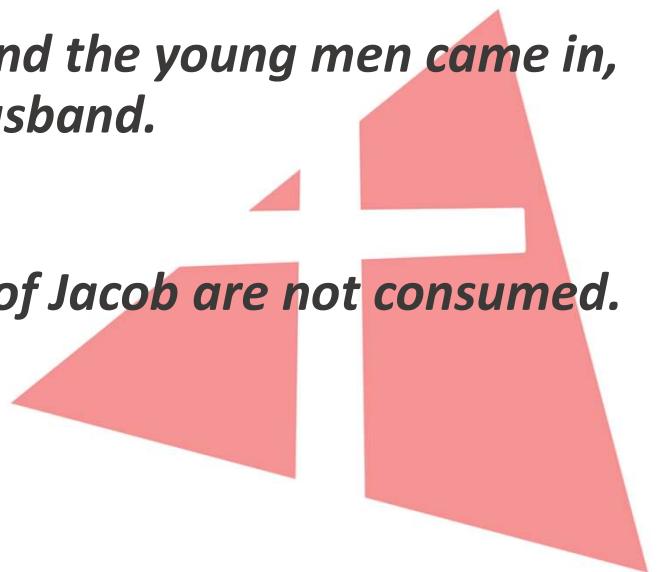
1 Samuel 31:4 Then said Saul unto his armorbearer, Draw your sword, and thrust me through with it; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armorbearer would not; for he was greatly afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it.

Is God “Less Holy” in the NT?

Acts 5:5 And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and died: and great fear came on all them that heard these things.

Acts 5:10 Then she fell down immediately at his feet, and died: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying her forth, buried her by her husband.

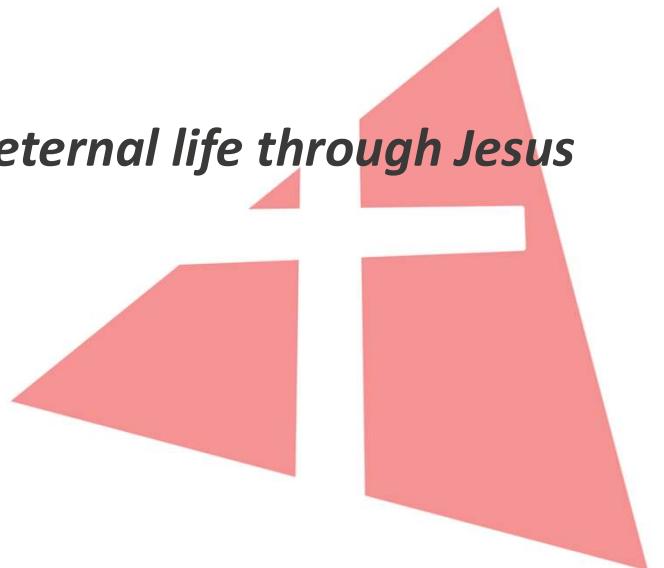
Malachi 3:6 For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore you sons of Jacob are not consumed.



God's Forgiveness

- Christ died for our sins

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.



God's Forgiveness in the OT

Exodus 32:32 Yet now, if you will forgive their sin--; and if not, blot me, I pray you, out of your book which you have written.

Psalm 130:4 But there is forgiveness with you, that you may be feared.

Psalm 51:1 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to your lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of your tender mercies blot out my transgressions.



God's Forgiveness in the NT

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Ephesians 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;



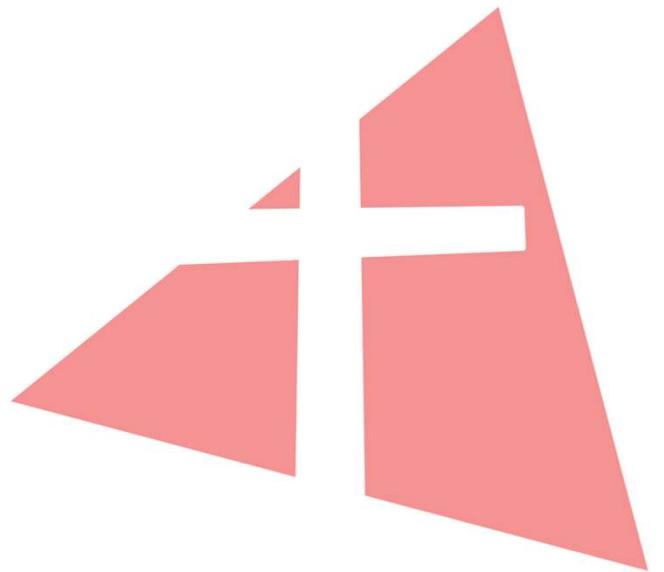
OT vs. NT

- God could forgive in the OT the same way He does in the NT because He's not limited by time



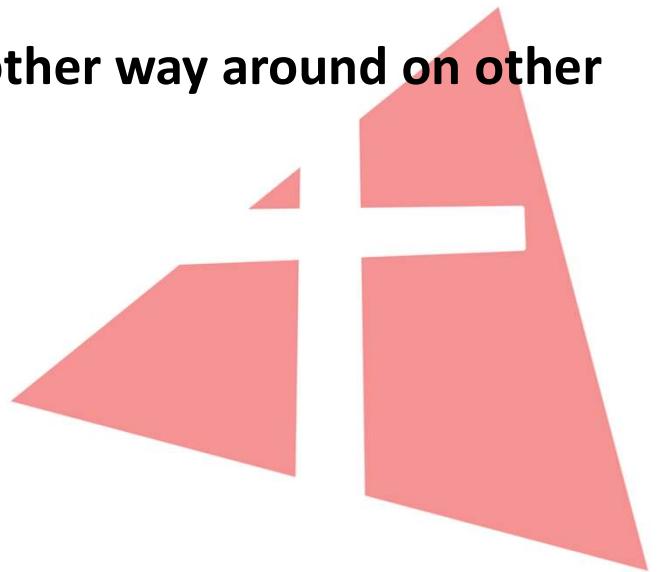
The Perfection of God

- God is always 100% Holy
- God is always 100% forgiving



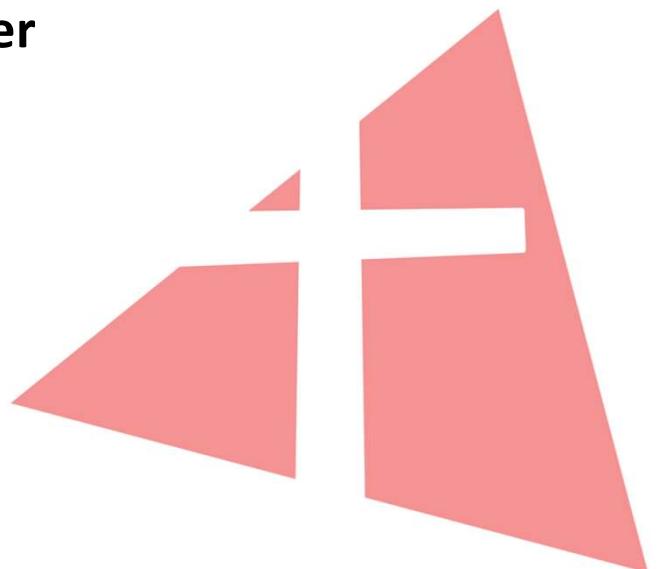
The Perfection of God

- God doesn't have mood swings
- God is not “more holy than forgiving” on some days, and the other way around on other days
- God didn't change from the OT to the NT



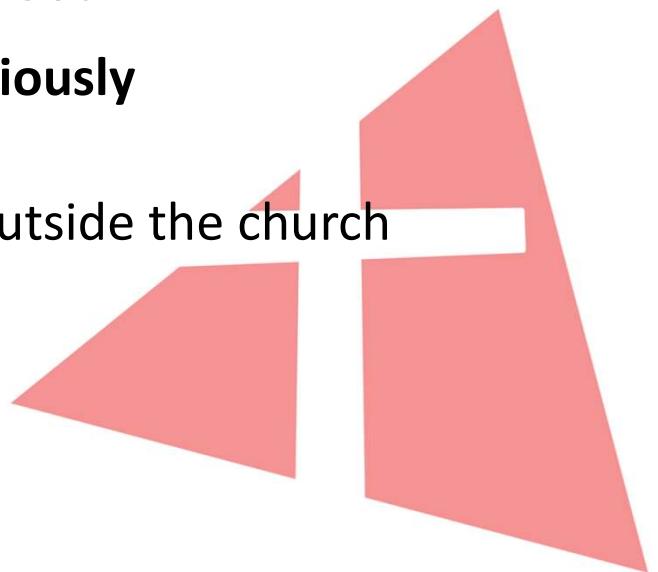
Our Relationship with God

- **We have to avoid focusing much more on one than on the other**
 - We need to take sin very seriously
 - We need to always embrace God's Forgiveness



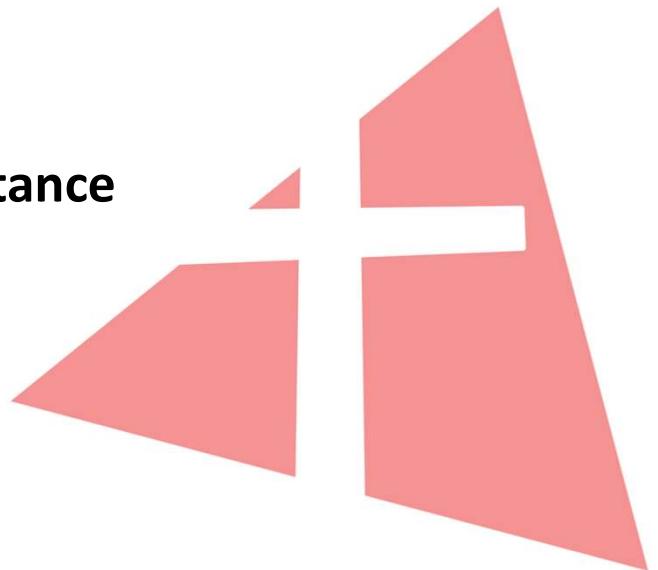
One without the other

- If we focus too little on God's forgiveness, we will be scared of God
- If we focus too little on God's Holiness, we will not take sin seriously
 - God might reject us
 - We will set a very bad example to other people within and outside the church



Within the Church

- **We need to take sin seriously**
 - Teach and admonish each other
- **We need to reflect God's forgiveness as soon as there is repentance**



In Conclusion

- God is perfectly Holy and perfectly forgiving, all the time
- Let's embrace "who God is" in our relationship with Him
- Let's reflect "who God is" to each other

