

*Jesus said, "I am the way,  
the truth, and the life."*

—John 14:6

# What is TRUTH?

*Culture demands ... and deserves an answer*



The Wednesday BibleLife Series  
Terry R Baughman, Lead Pastor

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Culture demands an answer ... and Culture deserves an answer.

— I plan to teach several lessons in this series.

- First of all we will establish a foundation for the Word of God as being truth.
- We will establish core doctrines of our faith in Jesus Christ and who He is
- Then we will approach some topics of apologetics — defending truth in an unbelieving culture.

# The Truth about God

 **LifeChurch**  
www.LifeChurchAZ.net

July 15, 2015  
The Wednesday BibleLife Series  
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# The Truth about God

- God is God — The Sovereignty of God
- God is all-powerful — Omnipotence of God
- God is ever-present — Omnipresence of God
- God is all-knowing — Omniscience of God
- God is unchanging — Immutability of God
- God is One — The Oneness of God

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## —Jesus is the image of the invisible God



- Colossians 2:9-10  
For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.
- JESUS is God manifested in the flesh!

—Jesus is the image of the invisible God

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# God is Holy

## The Holiness of God

### God is Holy (holiness)

—God is majestic in holiness

- God's holiness demands exclusive worship (Josh. 24:19)
- The most holy One deserves constant honor (Rev. 4:8)
- He disciplines believers to impart His holiness to them (Heb. 12:10) "For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness." "11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it."
- His holiness is the standard for believers' behavior (Lev. 19:2; 1 Pet. 1:15-16)

# —God is majestic in Holiness

- Exodus 13:11 NIV  
Who among the gods is like you, Lord?  
Who is like you— majestic in holiness,  
awesome in glory, working wonders?



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working wonders?

# —None like God in Holiness

- 1 Samuel 2:2  
No one is holy like the Lord,  
For there is none besides You,  
Nor is there any rock like our God.



—None like God in Holiness

1 Samuel 2:2 NKJ

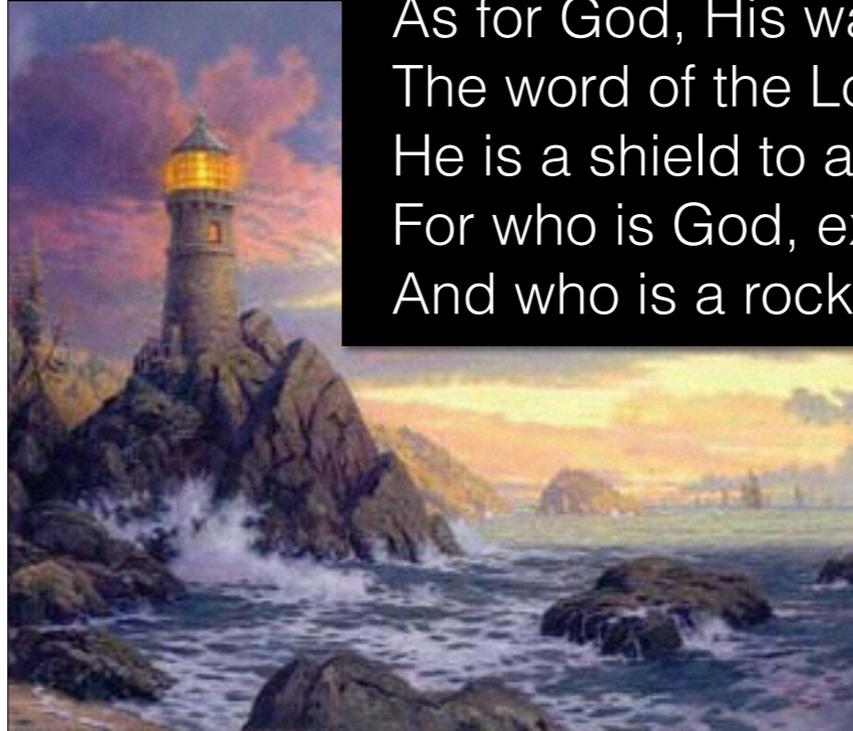
“No one is holy like the Lord,  
For there is none besides You,  
Nor is there any rock like our God.

(Ezek. 36:21-23 — God vindicated His own holiness by judging Israel for sin, because they had profaned the name of God)

# —God is perfect in Holiness

- Psalm 18:30-31

As for God, His way is perfect;  
The word of the Lord is proven;  
He is a shield to all who trust in Him.  
For who is God, except the Lord?  
And who is a rock, except our God?



Also  
2 Samuel  
22:31-32

—None like God in Holiness

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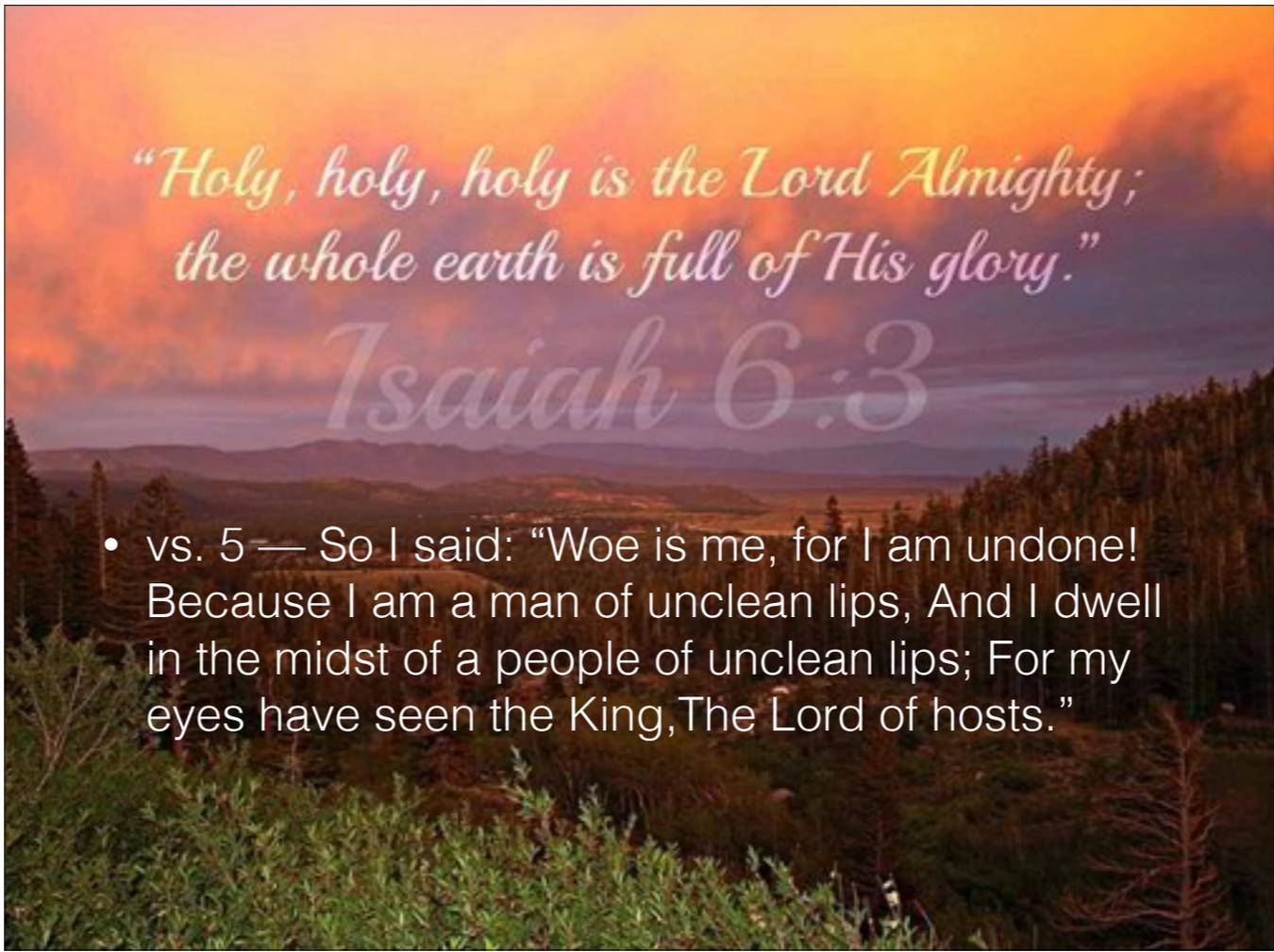
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And who is a rock, except our God?

(also in 2 Samuel 22:31-32)



*“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty;  
the whole earth is full of His glory.”*

*Isaiah 6:3*

- vs. 5 — So I said: “Woe is me, for I am undone!  
Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell  
in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my  
eyes have seen the King, The Lord of hosts.”

- His holy presence rejects impurity (Isa. 6:3-5) Isaiah’s vision of the Lord...

6 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. 2 Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one cried to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;

The whole earth is full of His glory!”

4 And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.

[ADV] vs. 5 — So I said:

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And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips;

For my eyes have seen the King,

The Lord of hosts.”

# A CALL TO HOLY LIVING



*1 Peter 1: 13-16*

—A Call to Holy Living

As He is a Holy God ... He has called us to be holy... (only through the shed blood of Christ and His Righteousness)

# —A Call to Holy Living

- 1 Peter 1:13-20 NLT  
13 So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world. So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then.

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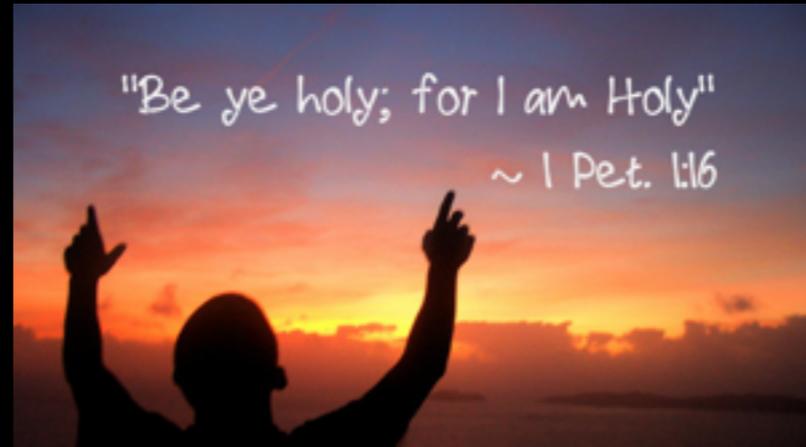
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15 But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. 16 For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy."

(Leviticus 19:2; Leviticus 20:7)

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# The Truth about God

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# God is right

The righteousness of God

God is right (righteousness)

—righteousness.

- His righteousness is absolute (Ps. 71:19)
- He delights in demonstrating righteousness (Jer. 9:24)
- people must declare humbly God alone is righteous (Exod. 9:27; 2 Chron. 12:6)

Behold, the days are coming,  
declares the LORD, when I will  
raise up for David a righteous  
Branch... And this is the name by  
which he will be called:

‘The LORD is our  
righteousness.’

—Jeremiah 23:5-6

HIS NAME IS RIGHTEOUSNESS — Jeremiah 23:5

“Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord,

“That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness;

A King shall reign and prosper,

And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.

6

In His days Judah will be saved,

And Israel will dwell safely;

Now this is His name by which He will be called:

THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

# —God is Righteous

- The Lord is righteous in all His ways,  
Gracious in all His works.  
The Lord is near to all who call upon Him,  
To all who call upon Him in truth.

—Psalm 145:17-18

*The LORD is righteous  
in all His ways  
and loving  
toward all He has made.  
Psalm 145:17*

MEG  
Photo by Frederick

- He is righteous in everything He does (Ps. 145:17)

17 The Lord is righteous in all His ways, Gracious in all His works.

18 The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth.

**THE LORD  
REIGNS  
LET THE EARTH  
BE GLAD  
LET THE DISTANT SHORES  
REJOICE  
CLOUD AND THICK DARKNESS  
SURROUND HIM  
RIGHTEOUSNESS AND  
JUSTICE  
ARE THE FOUNDATION OF HIS  
THRONE**

Psalm 97:1

The Lord reigns;

Let the earth rejoice;

Let the multitude of isles be glad!

2

Clouds and darkness surround Him;

**Righteousness** and justice are the foundation of His throne.

Throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God - truly righteous and holy.

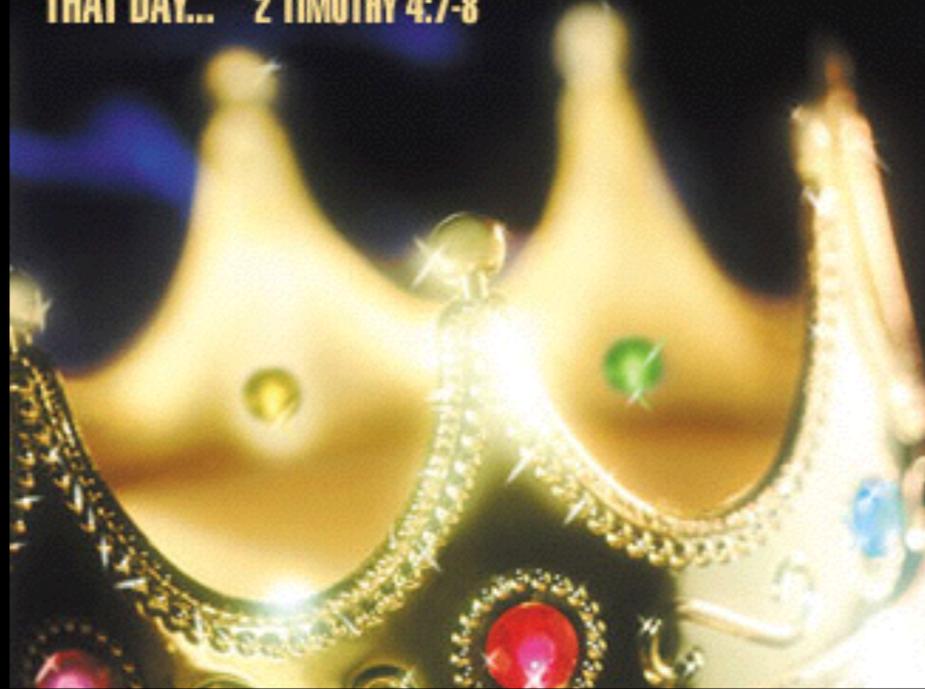
Ephesians 4:22-24 NLT

Because God is righteous...

I will live by His standards.

“Throw off your old evil nature and your former way of life, which is rotten through and through, full of lust and deception. Instead, there must be a spiritual renewal of your thoughts and attitudes. You must display a new nature because you are a new person, created in God’s likeness—righteous, holy, and true.” (Ephesians 4:22-24)

**I HAVE FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED THE RACE, I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH. NOW THERE IS IN STORE FOR ME THE CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, WHICH THE LORD, THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE, WILL AWARD TO ME ON THAT DAY... 2 TIMOTHY 4:7-8**



- in the end, the righteous Judge will judge righteously (2 Tim. 4:8)

7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

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# God is just

## The fairness of God

God is just (fairness)

—justice.

Because God is just...

He will always treat me fairly.

“For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in our bodies. ” (2 Corinthians 5:10)

- a day is fixed for His righteous judgment of the world (Acts 17:31)
- all sin is ultimately against a righteous God (Ps. 51:4)
- all God’s ways are righteous and deserve praise (Rev. 15:3)
- God alone is the judge (James 4:12)
- God judges all people with justice (Ps. 9:7-8)
- God’s law and judgments are completely righteous (Ps. 19:7-9)
- He exercises justice toward all humanity (Gen. 18:25)
- He is just in all His ways (Dent. 32:4)
- God rightly judges heart, mind and deeds (Jer. 17:10)
- Jesus, our righteous defender before the Father (1 John 2:1)
- the Messiah will judge all with complete justice (Isa. 11:4-5)
- the righteous Messiah will establish a righteous people (Jer. 33:16)
- the righteous God justifies those who believe in Jesus (Rom. 3:25-26)

# —God will Judge with Justice

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# God is forgiving

The mercy of God

God is forgiving (mercy)

—mercy.

Because God is merciful...

He forgives me of my sins when I sincerely confess them.

“Have mercy on me, O God, because of Your unfailing love. Because of Your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a right spirit within me. Do not banish me from Your presence, and don’t take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me again the joy of Your salvation, and make me willing to obey You.” (Psalm 51) or “If we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong.” (1 John 1:9)

- as a father, God corrects His beloved children (Prov. 3:12)
- believers should imitate God’s universal love (Matt. 5:44-45)
- eternal plans are motivated by His love (Eph. 1:4-5)
- God loves and preserves His godly people (Ps. 37:28)
- God loves His people, even when they are faithless (Hos. 3:1)
- God deserves thanks because of His perpetual love (Ps. 100:5)
- God loved the world enough to send His Son to die (John 3:16)
- God loves those who love His Son (and obey Him) (John 14:21)
- His love is poured into believers’ hearts (Rom. 5:5)
- God is love, and those who know God love others (1 John 4:7-8, 20-21)
- nothing can separate the believer from His love (Rom. 8:38-39)
- to love enemies and the wicked is to be like God (Luke 6:35)

# —God will forgive when we confess

- “Have mercy on me, O God, because of Your unfailing love. Because of Your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a right spirit within me. Do not banish me from Your presence, and don’t take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me again the joy of Your salvation, and make me willing to obey You.” (Psalm 51)

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God is love (mercy)

—mercy.

Because God is love...

He is unconditionally committed to my well-being.

“Can anything ever separate us from Christ’s love? Does it mean He no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or are hungry or cold or in danger or threatened with death?” “No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from His love, Death can’t, and life can’t. The angels can’t, and the demons can’t. Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow, and even the powers of hell can not keep God’s love away. Whether we are high above the sky or in the deepest ocean, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:35, 37-39)

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# —God's Love is unconditional

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