

# Holy, Holy, Holy

The phrase “Holy, holy, holy...” appears **twice** in our Bible, once in the book of **Isaiah** and once in the book of **Revelation**.

In both instances the scene is the fiery, glorious, throne room of God.

This 3-fold repetition of the word “holy” is called the Trisagion, which means: thrice holy.

**Trisagion** (tree-SAH-gee-ahn) = Thrice Holy

[Holy, holy, holy music](#)

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## Isaiah's Vision (Isaiah 6:1-5)

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple.

Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:

**“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!”**

And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.

And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for 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!”

# Holy, Holy, Holy

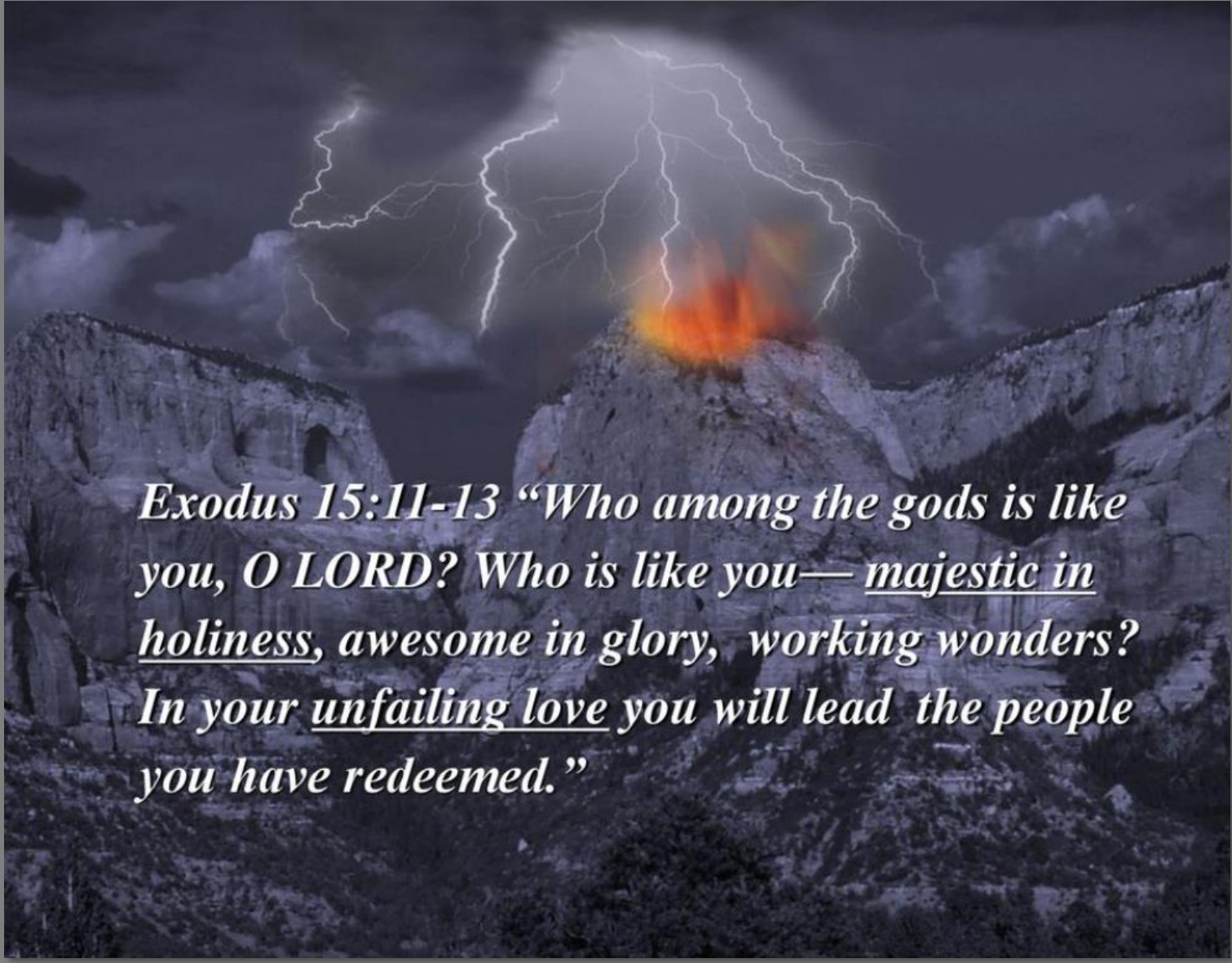
## John's Vision (Revelation 4:1-11)

I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne... From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God...

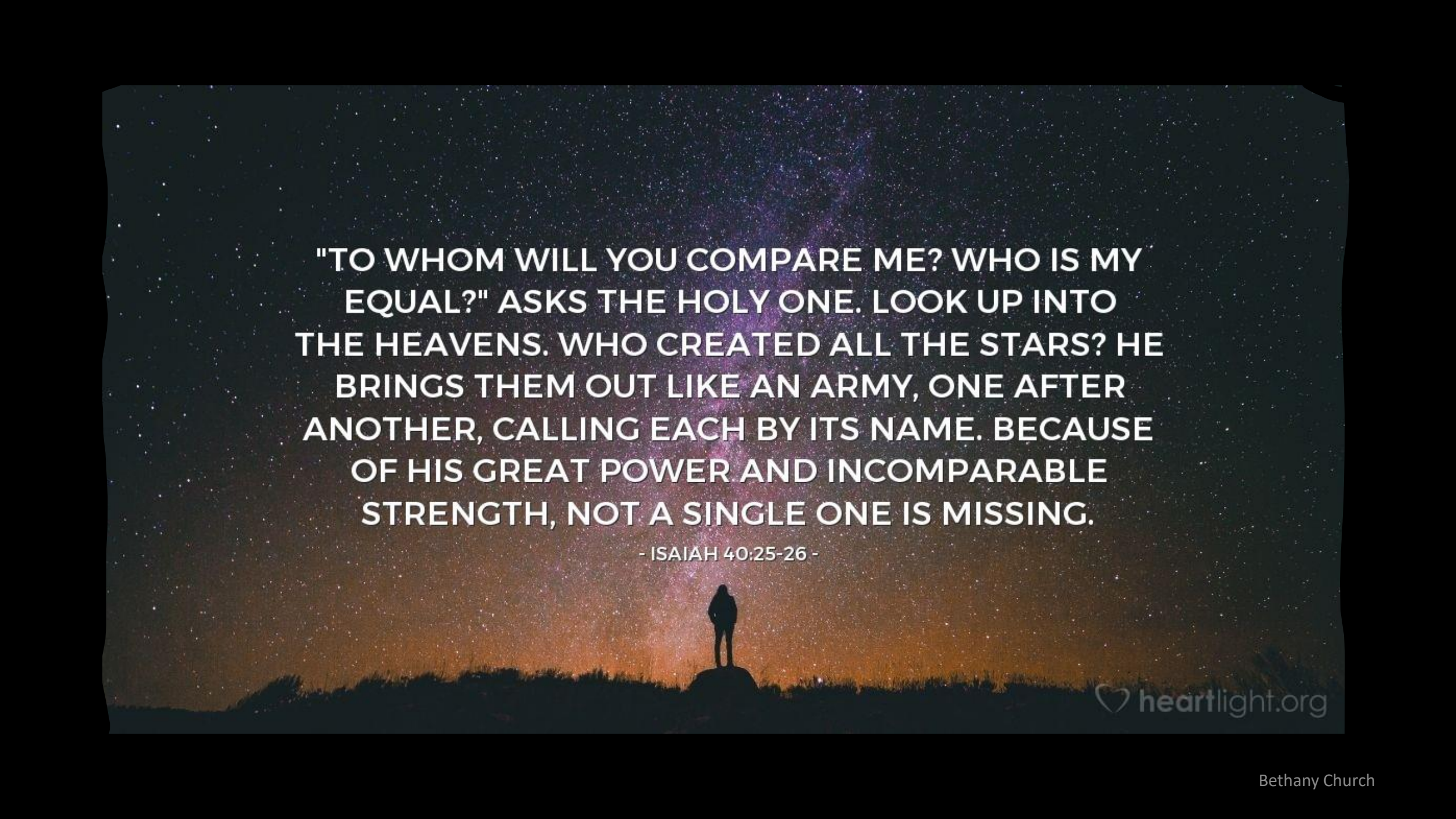
And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind... And the four living creatures... day and night they never cease to say,

**“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”**

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

A dramatic landscape featuring a mountain peak. A bright fire or explosion is visible on the summit, with several intense lightning bolts striking down from a dark, stormy sky. The foreground shows rugged, rocky terrain with some sparse vegetation.

*Exodus 15:11-13 “Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you— majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders? In your unfailing love you will lead the people you have redeemed.”*



**"TO WHOM WILL YOU COMPARE ME? WHO IS MY  
EQUAL?" ASKS THE HOLY ONE. LOOK UP INTO  
THE HEAVENS. WHO CREATED ALL THE STARS? HE  
BRINGS THEM OUT LIKE AN ARMY, ONE AFTER  
ANOTHER, CALLING EACH BY ITS NAME. BECAUSE  
OF HIS GREAT POWER AND INCOMPARABLE  
STRENGTH, NOT A SINGLE ONE IS MISSING.**

- ISAIAH 40:25-26 -

God alone is holy in Himself.

The word holy is used as a synonym for His deity and calls attention to all that God is.

It reminds us that His love is holy love, His justice is holy justice, His mercy is holy mercy, His knowledge is holy knowledge, and His spirit is holy spirit.



R. C. Sproul



Harold L. Wilmington

Founder of Wilmington School  
of the Bible at Liberty University

God's holiness is a single perfection that would perhaps come closer to describing the eternal Creator than any characteristic He possesses.

It is the union of all other attributes, as pure white light is the union of all the colored rays of the spectrum.



Holiness has never been the driving force of the majority. It is, however, mandatory for anyone who wants to enter the kingdom.

— Elisabeth Elliot —



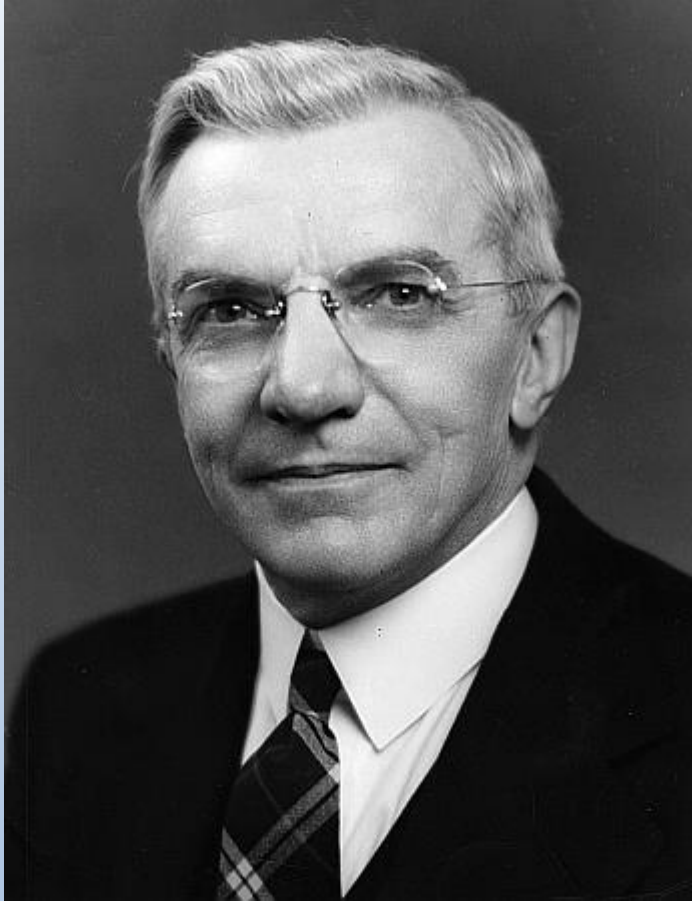
When the Holy God draws near in true revival, people come under terrible conviction of sin. The outstanding feature of spiritual awakening has been the profound consciousness of the Presence and holiness of God.



Henry Blackaby



Moses, Moses! Do not come near. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground. (Exodus 3:4-5)



Henry C. Thiessen

God is holy means that He is absolutely separate from and exalted above all His creatures and creation, and He is entirely separate from all moral evil and sin.



The clearest sensation that a human being has when he experiences the holy is an overpowering and overwhelming sense of creatureliness. That is, when we are in the presence of God, we are humbled and become most aware of ourselves as creatures. This is the opposite of Satan's original temptation, "You shall be as gods."

— *R. C. Sproul* —



When we preach the love of God  
there is a danger of forgetting that  
the Bible reveals not first the love of  
God but the intense, blazing  
holiness of God, with His love at the  
center of that holiness.

— *Oswald Chambers* —



Charles Spurgeon

If you think you can walk in holiness without keeping up perpetual fellowship with Christ, you have made a great mistake.

If you would be holy, you must live close to Jesus.

It's dangerous to assume that because a person is drawn to holiness in his study that he is thereby a holy man. There is irony here. I am sure that the reason I have a deep hunger to learn of the holiness of God is precisely because I am not holy. I am a profane man—a man who spends more time out of the temple than in it. But I have had just enough of a taste of the majesty of God to want more. I know what it means to be a forgiven man and what it means to be sent on a mission. My soul cries for more. My soul needs more.



R. C. Sproul



Warren Wiersbe

Warren Wiersbe in his book "Be Holy" relates the story of the worship leader who announced to the congregation, "We will stand and sing hymn 325, 'Take Time To Be Holy'. We will sing verses 1 and 4."

Imagine a Christian congregation singing "Take Time to Be Holy" and not even taking time (less than 4 minutes) to sing the entire song!