

**Living with a High View of God**  
 “The One who is high and lifted up...”  
 (8-13-22)

“DELIGHT IN GOD (BECAUSE HE IS GOD). True saints center their attention on Christ, and His beauty transcends all others; His delight is the source of all other delight; He in Himself is the best among ten thousand and altogether lovely. These saints delight in the way of salvation through Christ, because it demonstrates God’s perfection and wonder; they enjoy holiness, wholeness, while they take no pleasure in sin; God’s love is a sweet taste in their mouths, regardless of whether their own interest are met or not. They rejoice over all that Christ has done for them, but that is not the deepest root of their joy. No, they delight merely because God is God, and only then does their delight spill over onto all God’s works, including their own salvation.” – Jonathon Edwards (1703-1758) in Religious Affections, pg 136

“The thought of God should be the Christian’s panacea. It should cure all his ills at a stroke. And what in infinity there is in the thought of God! Nothing can approach in beauty to the idea of the true and living God. That there exists a Being who is infinite in power, knowledge and goodness, that that Being cares for me with a perfect love as though I were the only man in existence, that he loved me before I was born and created me to enjoy him eternally and that he sent his Son to suffer the agony of the cross to secure my eternal happiness – that, surely, must be a thought to end all sorrow.” – Maurice Roberts The Thought of God, 5.

“The basic trouble with the church today is her unworthy concept of God... Our religion is weak because our God is weak... Christianity at any given time is strong or weak depending on her concept of God.” – A.W. Tozer

“God is the highest good of the reasonable creature. The enjoyment of him is our proper; and is the only happiness with which our souls can be satisfied. To go to heaven, fully to enjoy God, is infinitely better than the most pleasant accommodations here. Better than fathers and mothers, husbands, wives, or children, or the company of any, or all earthly friends. These are but shadows; but the enjoyment of God is the substance. These are but scattered beams; but God is the sun. These are but streams; but God is the fountain. These are but drops, but God is the ocean.” – Jonathan Edwards, The Works of Jonathan Edwards, Vol. 17: Sermons and Discourses, 1730-1733

“The god of this century no more resembles the Sovereign of Holy Writ than does the dim flickering of a candle the glory of the midday sun. The god who is talked about in the average pulpit, spoken of in the ordinary Sunday school, mentioned in much of the religious literature of the day, and preached in most of the so-called Bible conferences, is a figment of human imagination, an invention of maudlin sentimentality. The heathen outside the pale of Christendom form gods of wood and stone, while millions of heathen inside Christendom manufacture a god out of their carnal minds.” – A.W. Pink

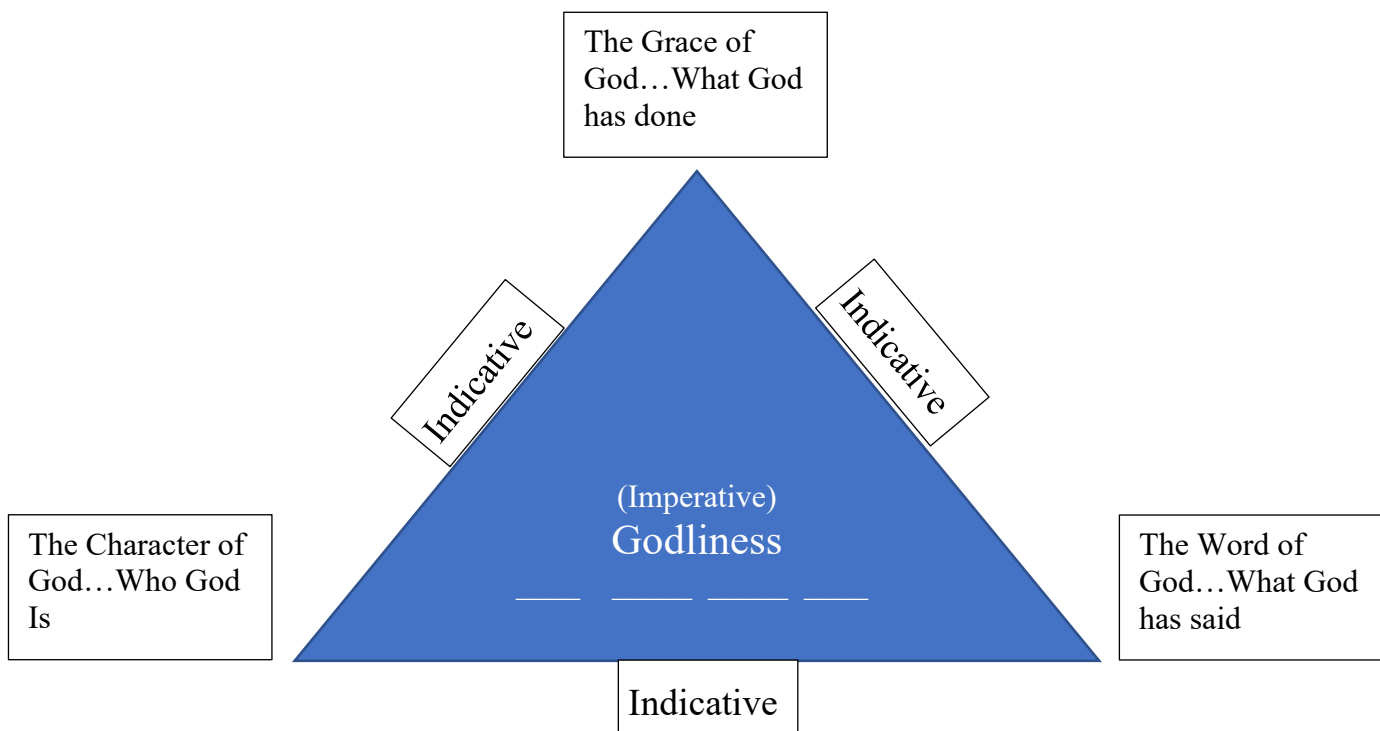
“Hence that dread and amazement with which as Scripture uniformly relates, holy men were struck and overwhelmed whenever they beheld the presence of God.... Men are never duly

touched and impressed with a conviction of their insignificance, until they have contrasted themselves with the majesty of God.” – John Calvin

“The way to honor the Lord is to live to Him by living like Him” –Stephen Charnock

**Review: Five Facts that lay a strong biblical foundation for a life of godliness**

- Godliness is inseparably linked to biblical \_\_\_\_\_  
(Ps 1:1-3; Jn 17:17 & 2 Tim 3:16-17; Titus 1:1 cf. Rom 1:18 & Titus 1:14)
- Godliness is tethered to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for God  
(Ex 3:1-6; 14:31; Ps 130:4; 2 Cor 7:1; Heb 12:28-29; 1 Pet 1:15-17)
- Godliness is rooted and enjoyed in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Rom 6:1-14; 12:1-2; Eph 2:10; Col 1:21-22; 2 Cor 5:14-15; Titus 2:11-14)
- Godliness is not less than but more than correct \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 Tim 3:16; 6:6; 2 Tim 3:5; Col 3:1-4, 10; 2 Pet 1:4; Phil 3:12-14; Heb 12:14)
- Godliness is both a duty and delight that flows from personal \_\_\_\_\_  
(Rom 12:1-21; Phil 2:12-13; 3:7-11; 2 Tim 3:12; Gal 2:20; 1 Cor 6:19-20; 2 Cor 5:14-15)



**Godliness is devotion in action!  
Duty + Delight = Devotion**

(1) Look up 1 Peter 1:13-17 and explain how this passage is paramount in the believer's training to godliness. What does the "Therefore" in verse 13 force you to consider? How does the gospel of sovereign grace drive everything that follows in this passage? How might you summarize verse 13 in relationship to verses 14-17? Now read verses 14-15 and identify for me how the believer is described at the beginning of verse 14. What is the negative command in verse 14 and what does the word "conformed" mean? Verse 15 does what in comparison to verse 14? Help me understand what is the positive command in verse 15, the parameters for this command and what it means? Where is Peter quoting from in verse 16 and what is the motivation or the reason that undergirds the command, "You shall be holy..."? How does verse 17 further clarify the motivation behind the mandate to live in holiness while walking through this world of wickedness? What does Peter mean by "conduct yourself in fear throughout the time of your exile"... why would a believer ever fear? How important is embracing the description of being an "exile" to faithfully following the command to be holy?

(2.) What does it mean that God's character must drive our conduct and is that a biblical truth? Look up Lev 11:44-45 and explain to me what God is both saying and demanding of His people Israel? What is the primary theme and emphasis of Leviticus? What does it mean when God says, "For I am the Lord your God."? How many times do you think this phrase "For I am the Lord" or "For I am the Lord your God" is used in Leviticus? Here are a few passages to consider (Lev 18:1-5 & 30; 19:1-4; 9-10; 11-12; 13-14; 15-16; 17-18; 23-25; 26-28; 29-30; 31; 32; 33-34; 35-37; 20:7, 26). Read Lev 25:17 as you explain what was meant to be the ultimate motivation for Israel regarding not wronging one another? Read Ex 20:1-2 and explain what was meant to be the driving force for Israel in following the 10 commandments given by God? What was Israel to do in preparation for meeting with God (Ex 19:7-15) and how does this only further highlight His character and theirs? Now read Ex 19:16-20 and 20:18-19 explain what happens when God reveals Himself to Israel on Mt Sinai? How does Moses answer the people and in so doing further help us see how a right view of God's character drives a right response in God's people?

(3.) Look up Psalm 36:1 and explain to me what is ultimately missing in the life of the wicked? How does Paul quote this passage in Rom 3:18 and what are the implications regarding man's depravity? How does the reality of being devoid of the fear of God correlate with Jeremiah 9:3 & 6? What does God mean when speaking of His people as "not knowing Him" in Isaiah 1:3 and how does He contrast them with the ox and donkey? What foundational warning did God give Israel in Deut 6:10-15 which they did not heed? What does it mean to forget God and how do we see that illustrated in these passages (2 Chron 26:16-21; Josh 5:20-21; Judg 8:33-34; Ps 9:17; 50:22; Isa 65:11-12; Jerm 3:19-21)? Did Joseph forget God and what subsequent benefit was brought upon his life (Gen 39:6-10)? As we train ourselves to godliness we must always fight for a right fear of the Lord which will protect us from what (Prov 8:14; 9:10; 14:2 cf. Job 42:1-6)! If you could give a concise life purpose statement that tied all this together in helping clarify your life's mission, what would it be (See Ecc 12:13-14!!!)

In one of his letters to Erasmus, Martin Luther said, "Your thoughts of God are too human." How much more today! See Ps 50:17-23 (pay special attention to the end of verse 21)!