

## God is Still Holy

- Intro: Lt. Col William Gillette story
- Keep this story in mind while we talk about the dwelling places of God.

## Holy of Holies

- Holy of Holies also called the Most Holy Place comes from the Hebrew words **koh-DESH hah-koh-dah-SHEEM**.
- Hebrews 9:2-9 says “a tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand and the table with its consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place (the holy of holies), which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron’s staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant. Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover. But we cannot discuss these things in detail now. When everything had been arranged like this, the priests entered regularly into the outer room to carry on their ministry. But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance.
- Holy of Holies was established.
- God spoke to Moses in the Holy of Holies
- Numbers 7:89 - When Moses entered the tent of meeting to speak with the Lord, he heard the voice speaking to him from between the two cherubim above the atonement cover on the ark of the covenant law. In this way the Lord spoke to him.
- Later, Aaron was the high priest
- His sons, Nadab (NAY-dab) and Abihu (a-Bee-hoo) were new priests
- They offered unauthorized fire before God and were killed by God.
  - God told Moses to tell Aaron that he could no longer go in the Holy of Holies whenever he wanted or he would die.
  - After that, God laid out very specific guidelines for entering the temple.
  - Reverence returned to God and his dwelling place.

- Moses then said to Aaron in Leviticus 10:3 - **“This is what the Lord spoke of when he said: “Among those who approach me. I will be proved holy; in the sight of all the people. I will be honored.”**  
Aaron remained silent.

## God Sent Jesus

- **Here’s the thing...the Holy of Holies is imperfect**
- Hebrews 9:7-12 - But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the **Most Holy Place** had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still functioning. This is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper. But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining[b] eternal redemption.  
-what it’s saying...
- True access to God does not come from sacrifice in a holy room.
- True access to God comes only thru Jesus.
- Only His sacrifice allows you to be in the presence of God
- Which is why the curtain to the Holy of Holies was torn when he died.
- The Holy Spirit no longer dwelt in that room.
- That room was no longer the access point for man to meet God.
- John 14:6-7 - I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

## God sent the Holy Spirit

- This part is tricky...
- Explain how Jesus isn't here.
- He isn't really the one in our hearts
- He is with the Father.
- John 14:15 "If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever - the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.
- Phone Analogy
  - Jesus gives you the direct number to God.
  - The holy Spirit is the Cell Phone.
- Acts 2:38-39 - Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

## Here is the Problem

- When God was present in a Holy Room, he was feared by His people
- When God was present in a Holy Savior, he was respected and loved by His people. (maybe not everyone else)
- Now God is physically with us, we do not fear Him. We do not respect Him.  
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- We say we do, but our actions even in church speak otherwise.  
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- Just because we now have a personal relationship with God, doesn't mean we shouldn't fear Him.
- Just because we have a personal relationship with God doesn't mean we shouldn't respect Him.
- Just like my step dad...
  - He isn't Colonel William Gillette. He is Just Bill.
  - My God isn't Yahweh Elohim the Lord God! He's just ... God.

- He isn't the same God who struck down Uzziah for handling the Ark of the covenant...He's just ...God
- He isn't the same God who rained down fire on Sodom and Gomorrah...He's just ...God.
- He isn't the same God who spoke existence into being...He's just ...God
- He isn't the same God who closed the lion's mouth, or shielded the three from the fire...He is just God
- But, He is the same God. He **IS** Yahweh Elohim!
  - Not only is he all of those things,
  - He is the God who saved you from an eternal fire.
  - He is the God who sent His son to suffer and die for you.
  - He is the Abba father who loves you.
- For all those reasons, and more, he deserves to be feared, respected and truly worshipped.

**“Among those who approach me. I will be proved holy;  
in the sight of all the people.  
I will be honored.”**

- The songs we sing are not just songs but offerings to a God that we fear, respect and worship.
- Let us worship him now because he is just as Holy now and he was in the Holy of Holies.
- God... is ...still ...Holy!