

He is the Holy Child who is called Son of God

In the conversation the angel Gabriel had with Mary about her being chosen to give birth to Jesus, we find many statements made that indicate that this will not be some ordinary person who is coming into the world. One of those statements is in verse 35.

³⁵ The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the Holy Child shall be called the Son of God.”

Every child born is a special child. Each of you is unique. You are a creation of God. God formed you and wove you in your mother’s womb. You are special.

The statement of verse 35 tells us that Jesus was extra special. That which tells us that this is no ordinary child is the last statement of the verse. Literally from the original language, it can be translated, “Therefore even the Holy One being born will be called Son of God.”

What makes this child extraordinary? For one thing, He was conceived by the Holy Spirit. There is no other one who came into the world in that manner. He is the Holy One. Because He is conceived of the Holy Spirit, He is Son of God. There is another glory of Christmas. Let’s explore that for a moment.

As I prayed and dwelled on this glory, two things are required of us.

AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We must acknowledge, recognize, and allow Jesus to be revealed to us as the Holy One, Son of God. What does that mean?

Holy has two dimensions to it. It means set apart, to be different from others.

In that light, Jesus is different, far more different. There is none who is like Him.

There is none more unique.

In the Gospel of John, there is a term found four times. The first is in John 1:14. *The Word became flesh and dwelled among men, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten.*

Only begotten is the term. It always used of Jesus. It literally means only one of its kind. There is no one anywhere close to being the same as Jesus.

There is none more unique in His being divine.

He is Son of God. He is God. This is a title that gives light to the unique, intimate relationship that exists with Jesus and the Father. We are given witness to that while Jesus was on earth. It is a title that gives Jesus authority. All authority is given to Jesus in heaven and on earth. It is a title given so that we see God by seeing the Son of God. Because Jesus is Son of God, He is a mirror image of who God is. We see the love of Jesus, we see the love of God. We see the compassion of Jesus, we see the compassion of God.

There is none more pure

This is the second dimension of holy. Because of His uniqueness as Son of God, He had no sin. To me, this uniqueness stands out the most. Jesus knew no sin. Jesus had no sin. How would you like it if your son never sinned. This kid does no wrong. What is wrong with this kid? How would you like to have a brother who never did wrong?

Yet scripture tells us how this uniqueness serves us today.

Hebrews 4:15 - For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore, let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Because He is unique in that none is more pure,

None is more qualified to be sin bearer for us.

2 Corinthians 5:21 – He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Jesus is now the crucified, but raised Son of God. He ascended to the heaven and now He sits at the right hand of God.

In that **none is more radiant in glory**
His holiness is the radiance of His glory.

Isaiah shares these words.

In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings; with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried out to another and said,

"Holy, Holy, Holy is he LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."

And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.

It never dawned on me until I read Sinclair Ferguson. Isaiah saw Jesus before Jesus became flesh. He saw the radiance of His holiness. He saw the radiance of His glory.

This is our Jesus now. The Holy Child of Bethlehem is now Holy Lord of Heaven.

That brings us to the second thing required of us.

AN ACTION

We learn the proper action from those who saw the holiness of the Lord.

Let's take Isaiah for example. What action did he take?

Isaiah tells us. "Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined.

Experiencing the holiness of God **Dismantles Us.**

Any pride we have in ourselves suddenly crumbles at the holiness of God. Any haughtiness of the heart of our being is quickly cut and removed in the face of God's holiness. For the first few chapters of Isaiah, he is preaching against Israel. Woe is you. Woe is you. Now he is in the presence of the holiness of Jesus. The tables are turned. Woe is me.

Isaiah goes on. *"I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."* The holiness of Jesus **Exposes Us**.

In the light of holiness of Jesus, all darkness is overcome. Everything comes to light. Everything about us is exposed. Nothing is hidden anymore. Everything is uncovered and laid out in the open by the one to whom we must give an account.

We may not be as bad as we might be, but the point is that our lives have no part that is free from the pollution of sin.

Isaiah's statement is his confession. What is it that Jesus is exposing about you now? There is no hiding it. There is no covering it up. Confess it. That is the action needing to be taken now.

Isaiah tells us. *"Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs. He touched my mouth with it and said, 'Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven.'"*

The holiness of Jesus **Cleanses Us**

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Isaiah goes on. *"Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?'"* Then I said, *"Here am I. Send me!"* He said, *"Go and tell!"*

The holiness of Jesus **Empowers Us**.

So, the action we take is simply look and behold the holiness of Jesus. As we gaze on that holiness, it is Him who changes us.

We are His workmanship (masterpiece) created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we will walk (live our daily lives) in them.

God calls us to holy living

Several places in the Old Testament, we find that mandate, command. The command is found in the New Testament as well.

1 Peter 1:15 - . like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; ¹⁶ because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

It is possible through the power of the Holy God in our lives through the Holy Spirit.

He is the Holy Child who is now the Holy Resurrected Son of God. This is a glory of Christmas. Worship Him. Worship Him.