

# 'Pure Father of Light': The Holy God

## 1] The 'Godness' of God (v1-4)

"Holy, holy, holy" (v 3)

"the God-ness of God, everything about him which sets him apart from man" J.I. Packer

- The Father ('the holy one of Israel' — Is 40:25)
- The Son ('the holy one of God' — Mk 1:24)
- The Spirit (the Holy Spirit — e.g. Jn 14:26)

"Set apart" — e.g. in his absolute purity (1 Jn 1:5)

→ Morality is objective

→ God can be trusted

## 2] The Seriousness of Sin (v5)

- Our sin

Seeing God in his holiness helps us see ourselves in our sin

- God's wrath

God's 'strange work' (Martin Luther)

→ The good news of God's justice

→ The solemn news of our separation from God  
"I am ruined"

## 3] The Necessity of Atonement (v6-7)

Christ the holy one, became sin (2 Cor 5:21)

so we might become holy (Heb 10:10)

and approach God without fear (Heb 10:22)

#### 4] The Nature of Vocation (v8-9)

Called to be the holy people of the holy God (1 Pe 1:15-16)

Holiness is

- beautiful ('as he who called you is holy' 1 Pe 1:15)
- for the glory of God (Mt 5:16)

- possible

- because the Holy Spirit lives within us (Rom 8:5)

- our destiny

- 'he chose us in him ... to be holy and blameless in his sight' (Eph 1:4)

#### Review questions

- 1) How do you often think about holiness? How does it compare with the way the Bible speaks of it?
- 2) In what ways is it a precious truth to you that God is holy, holy, holy?
- 3) What difference does it make to your conception of God and your Christian walk to know the holiness of God?