GOD'S HOLY CHARACTER

Psalm 145:17

Introduction: All of us know someone whose life is so pure and clean that we are a bit uncomfortable in their presence, thinking that we might say or do something which might insult or hurt them and especially so if that person knows us very well. Why do we get so uncomfortable in the presence of people like that? God's character is flawless. His Holiness becomes a barrier to us because of our own faults. We can pick out 10 people and compare ourselves to them and measure up to them just fine but measure ourselves up against God and immediately there is a barrier.

I. TEN CHARACTERISTICS OF GOD

- 1. God is sovereign. He needs nobody else, He never compromises Himself, and He never makes a mistake.
- 2. God is righteous. He is absolute, perfectly righteous. It is impossible for Him to do or cause wrong. God is the standard of all that is right.
- 3. God is just. It is impossible for Him to do anything unfair for he performs perfect justice always.
- 4. God is love. His love is selfless, free, perfect with no intent of love to be returned.
- 5. God is eternal. There never was a time that God did not exist. He is self-existent.
- 6. God is omniscient. He is the source of all knowledge. He knows all the past, present and the future and He will never be surprised.
- 7. God is omnipotent. He is the source of all things. He sustains all things as they are at the present.
- 8. God is omnipresent. He is everywhere personally.
- 9. God is immutable. He never changes in nature or character and has made more than 7,000 promises to His Children, Christians.
- 10. God is truth. Anything contrary to God is sin and is not the truth.

II. THERE IS AN INFINATE GAP THAT EXISTS BETWEEN GOD AND MANKIND

- 1. There has never been a human being who could compare with God.
- 2. Jeremiah 17:9 Isaiah 64.6

- 3. Man's goodness as well as his badness are both offensive to God.
- 4. *Galatians 3:10.* All of God's laws are given to show what we would need to do and be if we came on our own.
 - If we stumbled anywhere we would become disqualified and unfit to be with God.
 - We don't understand why "little" sins could do any harm.

III. HOW CAN WE UNDERSTAND OUR INADEQUACIES?

- 1. We have a hard time deciding which sins are "big" and which are "little."
- 2. Why doesn't five good deeds offset one sin? Five good things for one little bitty sin?
- 3. If a person sinned only one "little" sin a day from age five to sixty-five, there would be 21,915 sins. That person fell short 21,915 times of measuring up to God's character.
- 4. Suppose our church left the beaches of California and started swimming to Hawaii, some 2,400 miles away, no matter how well any of us could swim, nobody would be able to swim all the way. Everybody would fail.
- 5. It's easy to compare ourselves with one another for we are all similar and fairly much alike, but none of us are anything like God in being HOLY.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Failing to measure up to the Holy character of God for there is an infinate gap that exists. There is a major barrier between God and mankind.
- 2. The first couple brought separation from God to mankind. SIN came into the human race.
- 3. Any law of God that is broken demands full justice and that justice is death.
- 4. God has established a way for the barrier to be removed, but not by our doing. It is by God's way and that is through His Son, Jesus Christ. His death on the cross is the only way we have of reaching God.
- 5. We can contribute nothing. We can only believe and receive from God. Have you believed?