

The Line of Life and the Sphere of God

Ezekiel 36:16-27

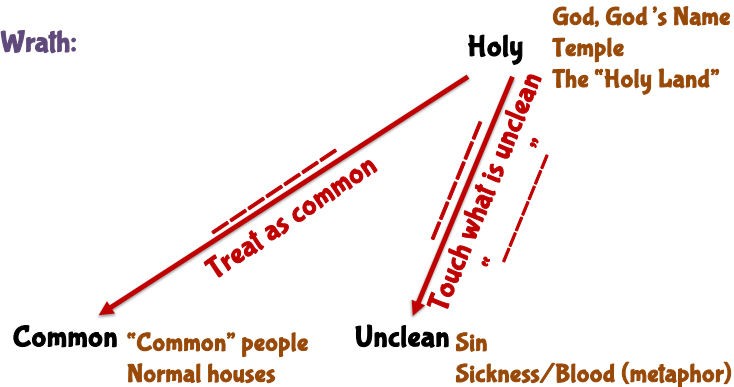
What is the _____ of your life so far?

How do you make _____ of your line? How do _____ make sense of _____ line?

A very brief history of the people of Israel

Abraham			
Moses			
David			
Zedekiah			
Ezekiel			

Wrath:



Ezekiel 36:16-27

16-23: The reason for the trouble: The people _____ and _____ what is holy
 _____: approach God when unclean

We tolerate _____ and immorality

We see disloyalty to God as "_____"

_____ : treat what is holy as if it were common

His commands are suggestions or something to _____

His opinion is one voice among _____

His promises are weighed against _____ scenarios

_____ : God protects His holiness by moving us away

24-27: God's action: Gather, cleanse, new _____, His _____

_____ God: He is the _____ of our rescue

"I will gather you"

_____ God: He is the _____ of our rescue

"I will cleanse you" → _____

"I will give you a new heart" → _____

"I will put my Spirit in you" → _____

23: For God's _____ name

God rescues people to show His _____

Not because people _____ it

The Big Idea:

In spite of _____
 God gives us a _____ heart _____ and _____
 in place of our _____ heart _____ and _____
 in Christ
 so we can be with God
 and this is _____ God, _____ God, and _____ God

Our lives: a line between 2 points: _____ & _____

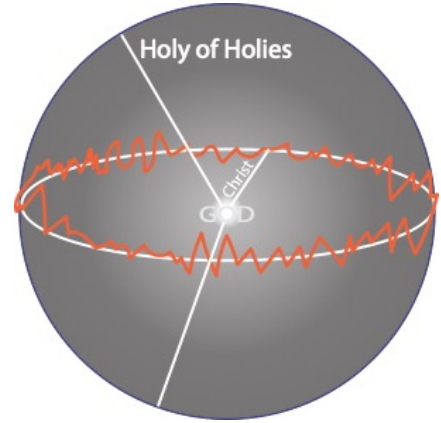
Birth _____ Death

If we are “in Christ”, our whole life is on the _____ of God’s presence

Holy of _____
_____ and _____

Including all our ups and downs (including death itself)

Until we are gathered into His _____ forever



Application:

Treat God as _____

He has authority, power, and glory beyond all else

He must never be _____ (treated as common)

Nothing impure or sinful must ever come before Him

He must never be _____ (encounter the impure)

All who claim the name of Christ are held to this _____!

Receive _____, because we are not holy as He is holy

We deserve His _____

to be _____ from Him

Yet God says, “I will gather...cleanse...give a new heart...put my Spirit in you...move you to obey”

This is grace: a rescue that is _____ God, _____ God, and _____ God

Grace includes _____ these steps

We live in Christ by grace, from the start and _____

All this is for the _____ of _____ name

Including all our lives (_____ & _____)

Life is not about _____!

It is about His holiness and His _____

By His generous love, He gives us _____ forever in His glory

Reflection

- What are ways that we can find ourselves treating God as common (that is, “profaning” God)?
- What are ways that we can find ourselves tolerating sin before God (that is, “defiling” God)?
- In what way is God’s rescue of people actually for the sake of His holiness and His name?
- What does it look like for you to see all of life, including its ups and downs, as being part of the sphere that is centered on God and His glory and His holiness (rather than being defined by the ‘line’ of our own lives)?