**LIVING HOLY**

Let’s talk about a subject that we sparingly hear about in churches now a days. A subject that is the core of our faith and the standard that should guide how we live and how we relate to God. Historically in our churches, it’s a standard by which we’ve lived, it is the hallmark by which we label our denominations, external practices have been established in its name, and in a lot of cases it’s simply been misunderstood.

[*Arris Charles*](https://liveinspiredbypurpose.com/author/arrisc/)  says in her blog…We are called to be holy because God is holy. **We need to not only reflect the heart of God as far as loving people, but we also need to reflect the character of God and have the mind of Christ pursuing holy character and behavior.** This is not just because it’s nice to be a good person.

God’s purposes for us involve not just what we do, but who we are becoming – who we were meant to be. **And our transformation on the inside affects how we execute our calling and our living on the outside.**

1. **The Command of God**
2. **There is a Difference**
3. **Daily Holy Living**

**THE COMMAND OF GOD**

The Origin

After the Red Sea Israel traveled through the wilderness and arrives at Siani, (deemed; the Holy Mountain of God). There they received the ten commandments and learn of the importance of obedience in our relationship with God. The law is given to expose sin and give standards for righteous living.

**EXODUS 19**

6 and you shall be to me **a kingdom of priests and a holy nation**.’ These are the

words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

In this scripture God outlines a theocracy for the governance of His people.

* **A Kingdom of Priests -** mediatory agents between humans and God.
  + Separated by God to act as a go between to carry instructions and establish standards.
  + Ex 1: Mosses as he delivered the ten commandments, (**Exodus19:3** Moses went up to God. The LORD called to him out of the mountain,

saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and

tell the people of Israel).

* + Ex 2: Aaron as he instruction Israel how to live based on the statutes given to Moses from the mouth of God, (**Exodus 10: 10** You are to

distinguish between the holy and the common, and between the

unclean and the clean, **11** and you are to teach the people of Israel all the statutes that the LORD has spoken to them by Moses.”

* + One who return back to God that which is offered by the people.
* **A Holy Nation -** one that is wholly separated from the unholy world and is dedicated to God.
  + People who accept the will of God and live by it. **Exodus 10:11** and

you are to teach the people of Israel all the statutes that the LORD has spoken to them by Moses.”

* In the New Testament the two are combined, **1 Peter 2:9** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

***This brings us to Leviticus, the handbook for the priest.***

The Instruction

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The overwhelming message of the book of Leviticus is the holiness of God – and our instructions to be holy.

How can an unholy people approach a holy God? First sin must be dealt with. The opening chapters of this book give detailed instructions on offerings and sacrifices which are needed for cleansing from sin.

Then the command from God is clear and can be seen 152 times in Leviticus.

**LEVITICUS 19**

**2**“Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

It gives a blueprint for.

* Worshipping a Holy God; the role of offerings, the duty of priests, the worship of the people, and the need for the altar.
* Standards for living a Holy Life; the people, the priesthood, festivals, holy days and the receiving of God’s blessing.
* To truly understand the significance of living holy we must review this book to get the mind of God for holiness. That’s your assignment, study Leviticus as a reference point.

As we know, the purpose of the law is to point out sin so we would have a point of reference for correction in our lives. We also know that Christ is the fulfillment of the law for the believer.

The standard of God has not changed, we must be holy. Our lives today are not consumed with the external sacrifices and offerings of old, we are now responsible for internal sacrifices and offerings.

When we accept Christ, we accept that fulfillment of the law which is imputed for us as righteousness. However, there is still the responsibility of being followers of Christ, living as Christ lived and representing Him in the earth.

**LUKE 9**

**23** And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. **24** For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

* Denial should be the norm of the day for a believer.
* We don’t deny ourselves to be good people, we deny ourselves to be holy people.
* This is not the adornment of external things (like clothing, religious garments, head coverings and such), it is the sacrifice of the heart that constantly leads to repentance, which then can be seen externally by our daily living (which will also show in our outward adornment).

A holy life is a life lost of our own will, desires, and agenda. It is a life found is living epistles, loving children, and dutiful servants of Christ.

**1 PETER 1**

13 Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being soberminded, set your

hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.  14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former  ignorance, 15 but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,

16 since it is written,  “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” 17 And if you call on him as  Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves withfear throughout the time of your exile, 18 knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver  or gold, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.