

## **Perfecting Holiness in the Fear of God for the Priesthood and Preparation for the Lord's Coming**

(1 Pet. 1:13-16; 2 Cor. 7:1; 1 Thess. 3:13; 5:23)

- I. **God is holy** (Exod. 15:11; Lev. 10:3; 11:44-45; 19:2; 20:7, 26; Ps. 99:3, 5, 9; Is. 6:1-3; Rev. 4:2-3, 8)
  - A. The need to know God as the HOLY ONE of Israel (Ezek. 39:7; Is. 47:4; 43:3, 15; 40:25; 12:6; Prov. 9:10)
  - B. Holiness is God's divine nature (Ps. 99:9; Is. 6:1-3; 2 Pet. 1:3-4)
    - 1. Holiness – the beauty of the Lord (2 Chron. 20:21)
    - 2. His dwelling place is holy (Ps. 93:5; 46:4; 48:1; Jer. 31:23b)
    - 3. He speaks in His holiness (Ps. 60:6; 108:7; 105:42 <holy word>)
    - 4. He swears by His holiness (Ps. 89:35; Amos 4:2)
    - 5. He sits and reigns on the throne of His holiness (Ps. 47:8)
    - 6. His unique way – the highway of holiness (Is. 35:8)
  - C. The Father is righteous and holy (1 Pet. 1:15-17; John 17:11, 25; Rev. 15:4)
  - D. The Son is called "the Holy One" (Luke 1:35; Mark. 1:24) and the "Most Holy" (Dan. 9:24b; Rev. 3:7; 6:10)
  - E. The Holy Spirit (Acts 1:2, 5, 8; 2:4, 33, 38; 4:8, 31; Rom. 1:4; 1 John 2:20; Exod. 30:25-33; Rev. 1:4b)
    - 1. The Spirit of holiness
    - 2. The holy Anointing
    - 3. The seven Spirits

**II. The dwelling of God is holy** (Exod. 15:13; Ps. 68:5; Jer. 25:30; Zech. 2:13; Eph. 2:21-22; 5:25-27; 1 Cor. 3:17; 2 Cor. 6:16; Heb. 3:6-8)

- A. The tabernacle and all the furnishings <utensils> are holy (Exod. 30:26-29; 40:9)
- B. The holy temple (Hab. 2:20; Ps. 138:2; 5:7; 1 Cor. 3:17; Heb. 10:19-23; Heb. 9:1-5)
  - 1. The most holy place <the holy of holies> (Exod. 26:33-37)
  - 2. The holy place <the sanctuary>
- C. Zion – the city of the great King (Ps. 48:1-2)
  - 1. The holy mountain (Ps. 2:6; 3:4; 24:3-4; 87:1-3; 99:9; Ezek. 43:12; Ob. 1:17; Zech. 8:3; 14:20-21; Heb. 11:10; 12:22-29)
  - 2. Jerusalem – the holy city (Ps. 46:4; Rev. 21:2, 10)
- D. The kingdom of God (Exod. 19:5-6; Deut. 7:6; 14:2; 28:9; 1 Pet. 2:9; Tit. 2:14)
  - 1. A holy nation with a holy people
  - 2. A holy and royal priesthood – a kingdom of priests
  - 3. God’s special treasure
- E. A glorious church –
  - 1. The body of Christ – the fullness of Christ (Eph. 1:22-23; 3:8, 16-19)
  - 2. The bride of Christ – holy and without blemish (Eph. 5:25-27)
    - a. By the washing of the water in the word
    - b. Being nourished and cherished by Christ
    - c. Fully submissive and corresponding to Christ
  - 3. The holy army – arrayed in the beauty of holiness (Eph. 6:10-20; Rev. 19:11-16; Ps. 110:1-3)
  - 4. Holiness unto the Lord (Jer. 2:3)

### **III. The believers are called saints (1 Cor. 1:2; Rom. 1:7)**

- A. Called and sanctified in Christ Jesus (1 Cor. 1:30)
  - 1. Being called and separated by God the Father (Eph. 1:4; 2 Tim. 1:9; Jude 1:1)
    - a. A holy calling (1 Pet. 15; 2 Tim. 1:9; 2 Thess. 1:11-12; 2:13-14; 1 Thess. 4:7, 3-4)
    - b. That we should be holy and without blemish before Him (1 Thess. 3:13)
    - c. God who called us is faithful to do it (1 Thess. 5:24)
  - 2. Through the (once for all) offering of the body of Jesus Christ (Heb. 10:10, 14; 13:12)
    - a. Redeemed by the precious blood of the Lamb (1 Pet. 1:18-20)
    - b. Cleansed (washed), purified and sanctified by the blood of the covenant (Rev. 1:5; Heb. 9:22; 10:22, 29)
  - 3. Through sanctification of the Holy Spirit and belief of the truth (Rom. 15:16; 2 Thess. 2:13; 1 Pet. 1:2; John 17:17)
    - a. Being born of the Holy Spirit in our spirit (John 3:6; Tit. 3:5)
    - b. Becoming a partaker of the divine nature
    - c. By the leading, teaching and transforming work of the indwelling Holy Spirit (John 14:14-17, 26; 15:26; 16:7-14; 1 John 2:27; 2 Cor. 2:18; Heb. 5:12-14 <a warning>)
  - 4. By the washing of the water in the word (Eph. 5:26; John 6:63; 13:3; 17:17)
- B. The cooperation of the saints with God – to be sanctified completely (1 Thess. 5:23-24)

1. Pursue holiness (Heb. 12:14)
2. Present our bodies a living sacrifice – holy and acceptable to God (Rom. 12:1-2)
  - a. Not being conformed to this world
  - b. Be transformed by the renewing of our mind
  - c. To prove <examine, discern, test> *“what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God”*
3. Put off the old man and put on the new man (Eph. 4:22-24)
4. Work out our own salvation with fear and trembling (Phil. 2:12-13)
5. Be separated from everything unclean (2 Cor. 6:14-18; 7:1; Is. 52:11; Rev. 18:4)
6. Be willing to receive the chastisement of the Father (Heb. 12:5-11)
7. Let the word of Christ dwell richly in you (Col. 3:16)
8. Have your heart examined regularly by the Lord (Ps. 139:23-24)
9. To worship in the beauty of holiness (Ps. 96:9)
- C. By faithfully keeping all the feasts
  1. Passover – saving us from this present evil age
  2. Unleavened bread – purging away all leaven in us
  3. First fruits – saving us from death and helping us to mature in life
  4. Pentecost – filling us with the Holy Spirit
  5. Trumpets – helping us to preach the gospel and truths
  6. Day of atonement – reconciling us fully to God by afflicting our souls
  7. Tabernacles – reminding us not to love the world
- D. Sanctification of the remnant at the end
  1. With the Israelites (Is. 4:2-4; Zech. 13:8-9; 14:20-21)
  2. With the firstfruits (Rev. 14:4-5)

## IV. The holy priesthood

- A. Chosen and appointed by God  
(Heb. 5:4-5; Exod. 28:1; Num. 3:3; 16:5, 7)
  - 1. A privilege and an honorable service
  - 2. A gift from God (Num. 18:7)
  - 3. The requirement of being holy and faithful  
(1. Cor. 4:2; 1 Tim. 1:12; Heb. 3:5-6; Matt. 24:45-46; Ezek. 44:15-16)
- B. The holy garments (Exodus Ch. 28)
- C. The consecration of Aaron and his sons (Exodus Ch. 29)
- D. The duties of the holy priesthood (Ezek. 44:23; 22:26; Lev. 10:10; Mal. 2:1-9)
  - 1. Do not drink wine or intoxicating drink (Lev. 10:9-11; Prov. 31:4-5; Is. 28:7; Ezek. 44:21; Luke 1:13, 15; 21:34; Eph. 5:18; 1 Thess. 5:8; Tit. 2:2, 6; 1 Pet. 1:13-16)
  - 2. To teach God's people (Ezek. 44:23; 22:26; Mal. 2:6-7)
    - a. The difference between holy and profane
    - b. How to discern between clean and unclean  
(Lev. 11)
    - c. To show people God's way and truth (Mal. 2:6-7)
    - d. To prepare the way for the Lord's return (Mal. 3:1)
  - 3. To serve and keep charge of everything of the altar and within the veil (Num. 18:7)
    - a. To keep the fire of the altar burning continually  
(Lev. 6:9, 12-13; 9:24; Rom. 12:1,11; Rev. 3:15-16)
    - b. To offer the daily burnt offering continually  
(Exod. 29:38-46; Num. 28:3-8)
    - c. To prepare the showbread (Exod. 25:30), to keep the lampstand burning (Exod. 27:20-21) and to burn incense at the golden incense altar (Exod. 30:7-9; Ps. 141:2; Luke 1:5-9; Rev. 5:8; 8:3-4; Acts 12:5; Eph. 6:18; Rom. 1:9; 2 Tim. 1:3; 1 Thess. 5:17)

4. Sundry laws that the priests should pay attention to (Ezek. 44:15-31)
- E. Serious warning to the priesthood regarding their service to God
  1. Nadab and Abihu (Lev. 10:1-11)
  2. Uzzah (2 Sam. 6:3-9; 1 Chron. 15:1-14)
  3. King Uzziah (2 Chron. 26:16-21)

**V. The holy city – the heavenly Jerusalem – the consummation of the whole Bible (Rev. 21)**

**VI. The last warning in the Bible (Rev. 22:11)**