

HOLINESS

PETER TAN

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1. RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS

I Pt. 1:15-16 But as He who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; since it is written "You shall be holy, for I am holy." I am sure one of the first things we hear as a Christian is that God is holy. And those who worship God must worship Him in spirit and in truth. But not many understand the true concept of what holiness means. Many times when we talk about holiness we think about freedom from sin. But holiness is not merely being sinless. The reason we think that was is because of our background. All of us were born in sin. When we were born again we have our sin washed away. We are grateful to God for washing our sin away. But holiness is more than that.

The Gift of Righteousness

The first thing we need to understand is holiness is different from righteousness. The bible brings in two concepts: a concept of righteousness and a concept of holiness. There is a relationship between holiness and righteousness. But the bible shows that they are on different areas altogether. Righteousness has to do with the law. The word righteous is from the Greek word 'dikios' which means uprightness, just, a just man. And there are people who were considered righteous in the bible. What do you think of when you hear a statement he is an upright person. You think about a person's conformity to the law of God, that he or she has high morals in conduct. We think in terms of compliance with the 10 commandments. And that is exactly what righteousness speaks about. Righteousness has to do with being perfectly conformed to the just requirement of the law, that's righteousness.

And the word holiness is from a different Greek word. Holiness comes from the Greek word 'hagios' which means to set apart, to dedicate something to the Lord. It speaks about a separation, a cutting away and being dedicated and separated onto something.

Righteousness means being conformed to the requirements of the law. We realized that nobody except Jesus Christ has actually conformed to the law perfectly. Only Jesus Christ has met all the requirements of the law and was found sinless. Everybody else failed. In the Old Testament all those men of God lived and were declared righteous based on what Jesus had done. In the New Testament all believers are declared righteous based on what Jesus had done. The only difference is that we in the New Testament look back to the finished work of the Cross whereas the Old Testament saints looked forward to the Cross.

King David speaks about it when he says blessed is the man whose sins are forgiven. So he is talking about looking forward. If they went by the Old Testament laws strictly David should have died. He committed adultery. But it is because they look forward to Jesus coming, in a sense they were saved on credit. In their time, Jesus had not died yet. When they died they went to a place called a waiting room. That's like taking a plane when you checked in they ask you to go to the departure lounge.

The bible says in Eph. 4 that He who ascended also descended. And when He descended to the depth of the earth He set the captives free. He set all the sins free and took them to heaven. So after Jesus had ascended on high every one who dies believing in Jesus does not go to the waiting room any more. For Jesus has paid the

price for the salvation of all mankind for the seed of Adam with His precious Blood. Therefore the bible concept of righteousness is that righteousness is imputed. Righteousness is a gift based on the Blood of Jesus Christ. No one could be righteous. Rom. 3 tells us that there is none righteous. Rom. 1 also says that there is none righteous. All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. No one could meet the requirements of the law. We were all under the law, under condemnation. Jesus came and took the price for the condemnation for us. Paid for us with His precious Blood. The understanding of righteousness in the bible is that righteousness is a gift. It's a gift that comes from Jesus, it's a gift to come and stand before God free of sins.

The book of Romans chapter 6 speaks about righteousness as a gift. Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Notice he is talking about the gift of God is a gift of righteousness. The gift of being righteous is a gift; its not something you earned or worked for it's a gift of His grace.

Also notice in Rom. 5:17 If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. So there is such a thing as a gift of righteousness.

But have you notice that there is no mentioned of the gift of holiness. We are going to see in fullness what holiness means. This morning we are going to define holiness. Righteousness is perfect compliance with the laws, the moral requirements, the physical requirements, and the spiritual requirements of God. And through the Blood of Jesus we are considered justified. And that gift of righteousness is to those who believe in Him received by faith. Rom. 4:3 For what does the scriptures say? Abraham believed God, and is reckoned to him as righteousness. There you have the gift of righteousness. Verse 13 The promise to Abraham and his descendants, that they should inherit the world, did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

Paul brings forth the concept that we have been made righteous by faith. We have died with Christ, we have been buried with Christ Jesus, we are seated with Christ Jesus, and we are raised up with Christ Jesus in the heavenly place. That position of righteousness has to do certain things. Because of your position of righteousness you now have authority over the devil. As long as you are under sin you can not have authority over him. To be under sin means to be under Satan's domain and authority. So if sin is present Satan is lord. But Jesus washes us with His Blood breaks and cuts off any binding that Satan has over our lives and puts us in His position of righteousness.

II Cor. 5:21 says He was made sin that we might be made the righteousness of God. And when we were made righteousness in Christ, this enables us to take authority over Satan. Righteousness enables us to have the authority to command Satan and his demons and they shall flee; to lay hands on the sick and they shall recover; to exercise dominion, to command prosperity into your life. To render ineffective against you any curse of the law, any weapon of the enemy. For righteousness is your rock and your refuge. And because of this concept Paul talks about the fruit of righteousness.

Phil. 1:10-11 So that you may approve what is excellent, and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness which come through Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God.

What are the fruits of righteousness? Peace, love, joy, authority, dominion, health, healing are the fruit of righteousness. When Paul prayed that the fruit of righteousness might fill us, he is praying that we may exercise the dominion, authority and the freedom from all the curse of the law that God has given to us by the Blood of Jesus. Righteousness brings to you the benefit of the law while unrighteousness brings to you the curses of the law. When we were unrighteous under sin the curse of the law works. We were under its bondage and burden and Satan plays havoc with our lives.

Suddenly the Blood of Jesus comes and we are washed, we are cleansed. The curse and the judgment of the law can not pass through the Bloodline. It stops where the Bloodline is. For when the Blood is seen the curse pass by. The curse comes around to different homes and sees the Blood and it passes by. That's the gift of righteousness. Thank God we don't have to earn it. Thank God that is free nobody could have paid that price. The only person who can pay that price is someone who is righteous. And since no one is righteous, no one can pay the price. Therefore God send His only begotten Son to live the life here. Jesus was full of righteousness, died and pay the price.

Let me give an illustration of that. If you are in debt yourself, you can not stand in guarantee for another person. You yourself have your own debt and it is heavy on your head. So how can you set another person free from debt when you are in debt yourself? It takes someone who is free from debt and who has abundance to come and say to you, "Are in debt? Let me help you." And pay all your bills settle it for you and bring you out of bankruptcy. See it takes someone who is free, someone who has the power, abundance, the materials to set you free.

The problem in the world before Jesus came was everybody was in debt. So who can pay for our sins? We can not even pay our own price let alone pay for another person's sins. So God send Jesus Christ and let Him pay the price for us. He died who knew no sin. So whom did He die for? For us. And in His death His Blood was shed. And whoever looks to Him and the price that He paid receives the gift of righteousness. It's free the gift of righteousness. It's free not because it's valueless. It's free because somebody paid. You can get free things through 2 ways. Its either useless and nobody wants it and you get it free. Or its very expensive and someone paid for you and you got it free. Grace is free but it's not cheap. It's the most expensive plan of salvation that God has worked for us. He did not pay with silver and gold He paid with His life. Righteousness has to do with the perfect conformity to the law. And the wonderful thing about the law is this it's either good or bad. If you break the law then it is bad for you. If you keep the law you get the reward of the law. And none of us can get the reward of the law because everyone was breaking the law. Jesus came and kept the law and received all the rewards of the law and He gave it to us. And that's the gift of righteousness.

Holiness

The gift of righteousness is not holiness. Holiness is more than that. In many people's minds to be holy as the Lord your God is holy means being righteous. They don't

think about holiness. When I started to study holiness to see what it means, my heart began to tremble when I realized the awesomeness of holiness. It's far different from righteousness. It includes righteousness. See with holiness you will be righteous. But with righteousness you may not experience holiness in its fullness. There is no such thing as degrees of righteousness. Either you keep the law or you don't keep the law. You break one tiny command of the law you are unrighteous. But with holiness there are degrees of holiness.

In the Old Testament person you see degrees of holiness. You have the outer court, you have the holy place and you have the most holy place. So that tells us the concept of holiness is different from the concept of righteousness. Holiness is awesome. I got interested in that because when Jesus appeared to me a second time I saw a ball of light in my room and that ball of light spread out into the words Holiness onto the Lord. And it started coming towards me and it touched my forehead and I was in a different world. It always puzzles me to seek out what God means when He said I am holy. What is the fullness of that meaning? What is holiness? I want to please Him. If He is holy I must understand what is holiness. The first thing God began to show me is that there are degrees of holiness. There are degrees of holiness in the Old Testament person. The names of the different parts of the tabernacle tell us that there are degrees of holiness. And in studying the Old Testament law we see that God placed different requirements on what He calls holiness.

Look at Leviticus 21:1-3 And the Lord said to Moses, "Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them that none of them shall defile himself for the dead among his people, except for his nearest of kin, his mother, his father, his son, his daughter, his brother, or his virgin sister (she is near to him because she has had no husband; for her he may defile himself)."

What God is saying here is that when one serves as a priest in the Old Testament person if anybody else died, his uncle, his aunt, his nephew, his niece died he can not get involved. That is why I said holiness is different from righteousness. It's a higher concept. It speaks about consecration and separation and dedication. As human beings when we look at holiness it sometimes look cruel. Let me give you some examples where it looks quite cruel to us.

Here it says you can not mourn, you can not weep, you can not defile yourself for any of your relation only your nearest one, your dad, your mum, your sister who is not married. All the rest you can not because what God is saying is you belong to me. Your relationship is now with Him.

In verse 4-7 He shall not defile himself as a husband among his people and so profane himself. They shall not make tonsures upon their heads, no shave of the edges of their beards, nor make any cuttings in their flesh. They shall be holy to their God, and not profane the name of their God; for they offer the offerings by fire to the Lord, the bread of their God; therefore they shall be holy. They shall not marry a harlot or a woman who has been defiled; neither shall they marry a woman divorced from her husband; for the priest is holy to his God.

When we have a high calling God watch into everything.

Verse 8-9 You shall consecrate him, for he offers the bread of your God; he shall be holy to you; for I the Lord, who sanctify you, am holy. And the daughter of any priest; if she profanes herself by playing the harlot, profanes her father; she shall be burned with fire.

Now that is only the priests. There is a certain degree of holiness required of the priest that is higher than expected for the normal people. See we are all righteous in God by the Blood of Jesus. The priest has to be holy and separated more than the people. Holiness implies separation. And the high priest has an even greater demand made on his life.

Look at what the high priest is to do. In verse 10 The priest who is chief among his brethren, upon whose head the anointing oil is poured. There is only one person in the whole of Israel who received the anointing oil pouring down and that is the high priest. The other only have it dip on their ears, their hands and their toes. But the high priest has it poured down on him. Since its something different, something more is required. That's holiness.

Verse 11 He shall not go in to any dead body, nor defile himself, even for his father or for his mother. Look at that he can't even attend any funeral service for his father or mother. If the high priest steps in his ministry and work, he becomes a high priest for life in those days. He is completely separated from his family. In other words he doesn't belong to his family any more. He has lost all flesh and blood ties. God makes a claim on the high priest.

You can see here that there are degrees of holiness. And when I saw the degrees of holiness I said Lord this looks even more complex than I thought that holiness is freedom from sin. It's more than that. And I began to study holiness. I found the bible talks about the beauty of holiness. You find it Psalms 29:2 and Psalms 96:9 worshipping the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

And the high priest he wears a special turban and hat and in front of it they put the words Holiness onto the Lord. The high priest has to wear it all the time. That you will find in Exodus 39 how they put it on Aaron's turban in the front Holiness onto the Lord. Now what would be your natural impression if you come across someone who is dressed like that? You said this is someone separated. He doesn't belong to you, he doesn't belong to anybody, he belongs to God, he doesn't even belong to his father and mother any more.

And in wrestling with this concept of holiness we need to understand how the New Testament conveys holiness onto the Lord. How does Jesus bring forth the same example? See everything in the Old Testament has a pattern and a shadow in the new. In the Old Testament holiness is separation from the family, and consecration onto the Lord. Everything in the Old Testament must have a New Testament fulfillment. What we want to have is the fulfillment and not to just absorb everything and go back to the old. The old is a shadow and if it's a shadow there is some real thing that is cutting that shadow. So in the old you see the requirements for the priests and the high priest. It's a very high degree of consecration from their families.

What is the New Testament equivalent? Jesus spoke these words. Mk. 10:29-30 Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or

mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions and in the age to come eternal life.

So he talks about the degree of consecration to the gospel.

Matt.10:37 He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is no worthy of Me.

Now that sounds very much like the Old Testament requirements of the priests and the high priest. Jesus said he who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. Only Jesus can have your heart. You can not give your heart to anybody. Whether it's your father or mother or wife or husband. You have to tell them that Jesus is No. 1 and they are No. 2. See in the New Testament you and I are all priests and kings before God. That is found in Rev. 1 and I Pet. 1. And so Jesus puts the consecration requirements upon His disciples, which happens to be us. And that is the New Testament equivalent to the old.

Verse 38 And he who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. It is not easy to take things emotionally. The things of God are quite hard to take emotionally. It's just like in the Old Testament in the book of Leviticus when Nadab and Abihu who were sons of Aaron died. Moses told Aaron you can not cry. His own sons died and Moses said you can not cry because the anointing oil of God is on you.

Lev. 10:3 Then Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the Lord has said, "I will show myself holy among those who are near Me, and before all the people I will be glorified." And Aaron held his peace. Verse 7 And do not go out from the door of the tent of meeting, lest you die; for the anointing oil of the Lord is upon you. Lets look at verse 6 too. Do not let the hair of your head hang loose, and do not rend your clothes, lest you die, and lest wrath come upon all the congregation.

That's not easy to take emotionally. When Jesus make a statement like you must love Him more than anybody. That's not an easy statement to understand and take from any perspective, if you are the father its not easy to take, if you are the son its not easy to take. Because we do love our father and mother, we do love our children. But Jesus says I must be No. 1. You have to sever your emotional ties and say I will love Jesus, He will meet my need, He will meet my emotional needs, He will be my friend, He will be my father, He will be my mother, He will be my everything.

Holiness is to love God with all your mind, your soul, your strength and all that is within. Righteousness has to do with the just compliance to the law. But holiness has to do with the conditions of your heart. In the bible it says the priest must separate himself. He must go further: his heart must be taken up by God.

When God revealed this concept of holiness to me I said to God, "Lord, that means everything else whether done in Christianity or in the name of the church that is not done with all our heart, mind and soul is unholy before God." What an indictment it was. I said, "God if holiness means the dedication of our heart 100% and putting You first, that means the moment we put You second or third everything else is unholy in Your sight."

Holiness is the full surrender of our heart to the Lord. That's how it relates to the word dedication, consecration, and setting apart. So to walk the holy walk when God says be holy as I am holy means that you are fully dedicated to Him and be as He is. Do you realize God is fully dedicated in what He is doing in love for the universe? He requires a degree of dedication to His purpose, to His call, to His ministry, to His will in your life. And Jesus Christ said this is required of all His disciples. Now I understand why Ananias and Sapphira died. They lied and they kept back part of the proceeds of the sale and they said that was all of it. I can not conceive how such a simple thing could cause them to die until Jesus said, "Either I have it all or I have none."

Did you know that if we ever give Jesus second place the bible says we need to repent? In Rev. 2:4 He speaks to the Ephesians church and says I know your work, I know what you do, I know that you have resisted all these other things. But He says you have lost your first love. Therefore He says repent. For when you do not love God with all your heart and if you do not do anything for God with all your heart, that is not holy. Its not dedicated or consecrated to the Lord.

The bible says worship Him in the beauty of holiness. Do you know what it means now? All that is within you is dedicated to only Him. No wonder in the Old Testament He has spoken many times, He says these people worship me with their mouth but their heart is far from me It's unholy before God. If you want to do some thing for God do it well. Don't do half a job with half your heart. If you do something for God as worship do your best. He deserves it; He is worthy of it. God calls us to love Him with such dedication. That's the definition of holiness. Holiness is a dedication of all that is within us to Him. If at anytime someone or some thing takes that first place in our heart, holiness is no more present. You may not have broken any moral law. You may have kept all the 10 commandments but you don't really love God with all your heart. Holiness has not resulted.

And the attitude of God is this as spoken to us in Rev. 3 He says to the Laodicean church I would that you be either hot or cold. He doesn't want half way. He says you either give Me your heart or you don't give Me your heart at all. And we are going to see in the bible an example of what is the different it makes to worship God with all our heart, which is holiness, or with half our heart.

In Genesis 4 speaks about 2 people Abel and Cain. Gen. 4:2-5 And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep and Cain a tiller of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portion. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

There were 2 things Cain failed to do. No. 1 it only says he brought an offering whereas Abel brought the firstling of his offering. No. 2 he brought of the produce of the ground, which was cursed, while Abel brought the sacrifice of blood. There you have a picture of God requirements for holiness and righteousness. See Cain worship God without blood. He was trying to come to God on the merit of his works. He has planted corn, grain, wheat and all the produce of the ground. And he harvested them took them to the Lord without blood. Your works are not accepted. All our righteousness is like filthy rags in His presence.

So Cain failed to come based on the merit of Jesus. He should know about it because Adam knew about it. God killed an animal and brought it to Adam and clothe them with the blood dripping. The blood was still dripping when He took the skin and covered them. And how did the Old Testament know about offering through them. God was saying to them from now onwards when you come to me blood must be shed. For the lamb points that you are depending on Jesus to come to me.

Look at what the book of I John says about Cain. I Jn. 3:10-12 By this it may be seen who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil; whoever does not do right is not of God, nor he who does not love his brother. For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, and not be like Cain who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother righteous.

In the natural he was doing some thing good. He was bringing a harvest to God. That was what he did. He was bringing some thing to God but the bible says he is evil. And he is talking about the time before he even murdered Abel. You can never approach God without righteousness. That's why we need the Blood. But when we have the Blood we can approach Him. We need to approach Him with holiness. So Cain approached God without the shedding of blood. The only Blood is the Blood of the sinless Lamb of God. Without His precious Blood your works are not accepted no matter how good they are in the eyes of man or in your own eyes. God will only accept only one sacrifice: the sacrifice of His Son and the precious Blood of Jesus Christ.

The other thing that we can see in the same picture of righteousness is from Abel side. What was Abel doing when he offered the lamb? The book of Hebrews tells us what he was doing. Heb. 11:4 By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he received approval as righteous, God bearing witness by accepting his gifts; he died, but through his faith he is still speaking.

By faith Abel offered, faith in what? Faith in the blood. You have to exercise faith in some thing. Faith has a point of contact. You say I have faith, faith in what? Faith in God. See faith has an object. So it says Abel by faith. Abel exercised faith. And what faith was it in? Abel knew there was a revelation given. Don't be surprised that the Old Testament people have revelations. Enoch the seventh descendant from Adam saw the second coming of Christ as told to us in the book of Jude. And Abel as he brought that offering he knew that God will not accept anything without blood. And Abel looked forward to Jesus and he exercised faith in Jesus. The blood that represents the Blood of Jesus brought him into favor with God.

The reason that we see that the reason why Cain was considered evil was that there was no blood. If you have never been born again, you may have gone to church. Going to church does not make you a Christian. But being a Christian you do go to church. You become a Christian by being born again by accepting what Jesus had done for you and accepting His righteousness on your behalf. So Abel brought blood.

There are 2 brothers offering. But one offering had righteousness and holiness. The other had neither righteousness nor holiness. Having defined holiness look at it here carefully. That Abel brought the firstling. So what do we mean by holiness. Holiness is a complete dedication of our heart to the Lord. Where you will not share your heart

with anybody or any thing but the Lord Jesus. And Abel loved God so much that when he chooses an animal as the offering he said, "I must give God with all my heart. I must worship God with all my heart."

The Psalmist will say it this way I will worship God in the beauty of holiness. And he looked around all his sheep and he looked around for the best because he wanted to give God the best. He did not just give God of his flock. He gave the firstling implying also the best. That offering represented his heart. That offering represented his best. He was giving his heart in love to God. He killed that lamb for the Lord. That is holiness. But Cain only brought the produce of the ground.

He should have brought blood and he could have also brought the first fruits.

See the bible has 2 ways. For animals you have the firstling. For the produce of the ground you have first fruits. I don't know what he did with the first fruits. He may have eaten them himself. He may have seen a lot of harvest. There were all kinds of produce of the ground, but he did not take the best. His heart was not involved in that offering. It was only an outward offering. And when your heart is not involved holiness is not involved.

We have to come to God with fear and trembling. If you come to God and sing a song without your heart your singing is without holiness. When you do anything for God and you don't do it with all your heart you are not doing it in holiness. That's the bible concept of what holiness means. Holiness means the full dedication of our first love to Him, the full dedication of our best to Him.

Let me tell you this God loves holiness. He will respond to holiness. When God sees any holiness He is pleased. In the book of Numbers you read about how the Israelites fell into sin. And in the midst of all those sin and unrighteousness with the people of Balak, there were people who were repenting because God rebuked them for their sin. And in the middle of their repentance somebody brought a foreign woman into the tent. The bible tells us Phinehas took a spear in anger and killed both of them. And God said I like that. He was acting on God's judgment. Because he loves God so much he can not stand to see that unrighteousness. What God saw was not just the action. He saw the heart and He said I will make Phinehas a priest.

Holiness has to do with the dedication of your whole heart, of your whole life to the Lord. We have defined holiness. Its time we examine our lives. If you have done anything for the Lord without all your heart, you have been doing it without holiness. Holiness is not just freedom from sin. That is just elementary; it's more than that. If I love God with all my heart, mind and soul there is no such thing as sin any more. That is elementary. We are talking about how to live for God, how to please God.

2. SANCTIFICATION

We are looking at the different aspect of holiness. Last week we mentioned how holiness is related to loving God with all our heart, our mind, our soul and our strength. This morning we are going to focus on the usage of the word sanctify. The word holy is from the Greek word 'hargios' which means to set apart. The Hebrew word 'kordash' also means to set apart. And sometimes the word 'hargios' has been translated as sanctify. It's actually from the same Greek word 'hargios'. But instead of translating it as holy since there is no verb for holy they use the word sanctify. If there is such a verb in the English it would be like holyfied but there is none so the word sanctify is used. But bear in mind that even though they use the word sanctify in replacement of the word holy, they are both from the same Greek word. It conveys the same meaning of holiness.

We have seen last week how there are progressive holiness. There are degrees of holiness. This morning we are going to see how holiness is past tense, present tense and future tense. To understand that fully we have to use the word sanctify or sanctification. The word sanctify in the bible sometimes is used in the past tense like holy saints of God, sanctified saints of God. Sometimes it is used in the present tense and sometimes it is used in the future tense.

So there are 3 workings of holiness in our life. We experience holiness in 3 manners. Holiness, sanctification has already been purchased for us through the Blood of Jesus Christ. That is the potential to come forth to be like God in His holiness. It's a past tense. We are going to see the example of the life of Moses. Perhaps you need some background - turn to I Cor.1:30 He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. It says Jesus has been made both our righteousness and sanctification. We see that righteousness and sanctification speak about 2 different things. Otherwise the bible won't use 2 different Greek words. The word sanctify is from the word 'hargios' which speaks about a holiness that's imparted into our life at the time when we choose Jesus Christ. It's a past tense. We experience it as a past tense when we make a decision. You experience an act of sanctification, consecration and separation when you make a decision. It's a past tense from that day onwards.

And then there is a holiness that we experience in a continuous tense. Like in Romans 12:1-2 I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

It talks about presenting our bodies continuously as a living sacrifice that we may present ourselves in such a manner as a sacrifice that is holy. There is a continuous tense implied, a continuous experience of sanctification.

Then we have in I Thes. 5:23 where Paul says I pray that God our Father would sanctify your spirit, soul and body. He uses the word sanctify your spirit, soul and body blameless until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. May the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely that is in the future tense.

So the doctrine of sanctification is related to being holy onto the Lord is in 3 realms. We experience it as an act. We experience it continuously. And we experience it when Jesus comes again. Sanctification is a past tense, a present tense and a future tense.

But to understand its full concept of holiness and sanctification and what it implies and means to us, we need an illustration from the bible. And there is none better than to look at the life of Moses. In the book of Exodus chapter 3 there are 3 stages to Moses life in the act of sanctification and his experience of holiness.

First Stage of Holiness

Exo. 3:3-5 And Moses said, "I will turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt." When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" and he said, "Here am I." Then He said, "Do not come near; put off your shoes from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."

What makes the ground holy? Was it the Lord's presence? Why does the Lord ask Moses to take off his shoes? Your question will be answered today. For shoes and sandals symbolize some thing. And we want to learn about holiness means so that we may be sanctified onto the Lord. Lets have some background about how Moses came to this stage. Moses spent 40 years in Egypt. And during his 40 years he was brought up in the school of Egypt in the ways of Egypt, in the wisdom of Egypt. The bible tells us that he was a mighty man of valor in words and in deeds. He was full of all the best training in Egypt. And Moses had to experience the first stage of holiness. And the first stage of holiness had to do with our will, our free choice that comes about.

In the book of Hebrews 11:24-26 By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh' daughter, choosing rather to share ill treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sins. He considered abuse suffered for the Christ greater than the treasures of Egypt, for he looked to the reward.

Verse 24 tells us that Moses had made a choice when he became of age. The question is when did Moses make that choice? Moses grew up in Pharaoh's court. The Old Testament does not give us much background of what transpired before Exodus chapter 3. The bible tells us that there was a certain point during his first 40 years when Moses became of age. We do not know the exact point because the bible does not tell us. That is not in reference to Moses coming out of Egypt. When Moses became of age it was not referring to Moses leaving Egypt and running from Pharaoh. That is another incident altogether. But here it talks about some thing that happened in Moses' life between the times when he was 20 to 40 when he was of age.

And he made a choice to visit God's people, to be with them. He chooses not to be called Pharaoh's son. He disassociated himself from the royalty and he chose to be with his people. In the book of Exodus chapter 2 he already made that choice.

Exo. 2:11 One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens. Some of us had the impression that the first time Moses came about looking at his brethren that he had the incident of killing the Egyptian. But if you put all these scriptures together the bible tells us that actually Moses continually went out to be with the people. His own mother brought him up. Here we have Moses visiting

day after day - can you see the picture of Moses continually going out with his people? He did not have to be there but he chose to be there. And God was pleased with his life to a certain extent. See there are degrees of holiness.

Moses made the first choice of not to go after the things of the world. Do you know that many Christians only experience this first realm of holiness and they don't see further than that. Which is why we want to understand the fullness of what holiness means, the separation of what God requires of us. Before even Moses had the opportunity to kill the Egyptian and deliver the Israelites, Moses had made a decision to be with his people. He chose to be with his people.

Heb. 11:24-26 By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, (the pride of life, he refused) choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. (The love of the flesh he chose not to) He considered abuse suffered for the Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he looked to the reward.

Moses made a choice at his first stage. And that was the first act of holiness that he begins. And many times when Christians think about holiness they only see this part but there are so much more. See all the sins of the world and the 3 temptations of Jesus can be classified into these 3 categories: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life. Adam and Eve fell because of the same 3 areas. I John tells us that these are the 3 that if any one have these 3 the love of the Father is not in him. Now you connect between love and holiness.

In the last message we talked about the love of God. When you love God you can not have these 3 working in your life. Either you have the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life working in your life or you have the love of God in you. Choose the bible say. In Genesis 3 Adam and Eve were told that they saw that the tree was nice, and that was the lust of the eye. And that it was good for food, and that was the lust of the flesh. And that it was the tree that makes them wise, and that was the pride of life. Jesus Christ when He was tempted He was told to turn the stone into bread, the lust of the flesh. Then He was taken up on the mountain and all the kingdoms and the riches of the world were shown to Him, the lust of the eye. And He was taken to the pinnacle of the temple and told to jump down and show yourself to be God's Son, the pride of life. And all these 3 a choice must be made. All sins are classified into these 3.

Turn with me to I John and we see the connection of this message with the last message.

I Jn. 2:15-16 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If any one loves the world, love for the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world.

Notice what verse 15 says you either love these 3 things or you love the Father. It's either the love of God in your life that saturates you or these 3 things distract you. And the only way to overcome these sins is by choice. Your will comes in your free will. Some people think that when they are under temptation that they can not make a choice. My will is too weak. I have got no will power. God is not asking you to use

your will power. He is asking you to yield to His power in your life. All you have to do is to make a confession of choice.

It's very simple which we are going to show how it is done. See when Jesus Christ faced the devil and the devil offered Him the temptations in all the 3 realms, He made a choice. Moses made a choice. And he chose not to be called Pharaoh's daughter's son. He chose not the pleasures of sins. And he chose not the riches of the world. He chose to be with God's people. So only the first part of holiness is experienced when you choose. That is only the first stage of holiness.

Before we go further we got to teach how to apply these successfully in our life. We overcome temptation by the confession of our lips and our mouth. People in Matt. 4 and Lk. 4 have told the secret of Jesus. In Lk. 4:4 It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. Verse 8 it is written you shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve. Verse 12 It is said you shall not tempt the Lord your God.

We have heard people teaching on the temptation of Jesus and summarized and concluded that therefore the weapons of our warfare is the word of God. But now how do we apply that truth in our lives? Now it is discovered that it is not just the word it is written where the secret weapon lies. The secret weapon lies here in Jesus' answer in verse 4 it says Jesus answered him saying. He has to say the word of God. Then in verse 8 Jesus answered and said to him. Then in verse 12 Jesus answered and said to him. He didn't glorify the devil. He didn't spend time with the devil. But He was using the word. And our weapon is the word but it is the spoken word.

Eph. 6 tells us put on the whole Armor of God, put on the shield of faith, put on the helmet of salvation, the shield of faith, the girdle of truth, the shoe of the gospel of peace, take up the shield of faith, the breastplate of righteousness and take up the sword of the Spirit which is the rhema of God. The word rhema should have been translated as the spoken word of God. And if you remember Jesus coming down in the book of Revelation riding on the white horse, the bible tells us that His name was called the Word of God and out of His mouth came a sword. Jesus destroyed the devil with His spoken word. Ever since the creation of this world it is that spoken word not just the written word that was demonstrative in power. God had logos all the time. But the logos had no power released until God spoke out in the darkness that was there and said let it be. And the power was released.

We must let the word of God dwell richly in us no doubt. But we must know how to pull the trigger. What is the use of a gun if you don't know how to pull the trigger and you don't know how to use it? You can have the most sophisticated weapon but if you don't know how to use it, it will be no better use than a stick or a knife. I heard one of these stories but I am not sure whether its true or not but its good for illustration. They gave this gun to some tribal people in one battle. So the tribal people took this gun and they went out into battle and they used those guns as clubs. And they kept using the guns that way until one of those armed forces man came and asked, "What are you doing with those guns? Why are you using these guns as clubs?" But that is not the full purpose of the gun. And he showed them how do use those guns. They didn't realize that they had such weapons. All the time if they wanted to catch an animal they would have run with the gun and chase the animal all over the place.

God have given us the word of God. We know the answer to the word of God. But we do not know how to apply the word of God. Whenever you are in temptation and you find that your will is weak, the key to the strength that you are to receive is not by might not by power. God is not asking you to overcome temptation by your will power. God is asking you to allow the power that is inherent in the Word to be released out of you against every principalities, power, wicked ruler of darkness and spiritual wickedness in high places. The key is in speaking it forth.

As long as you are in this world you will face with these 3 areas. So the next time you are under severe temptation in these 3 areas, and you can not find the strength or the will power to overcome. All you have to do is to open your mouth and say the Word. Say whatever Word you know. Whenever the devil comes against you in whatever situation you say the Word. The key is in the word say. No matter how great the temptation is on your life, no matter how great until you feel like you are just hanging on a thread about to fall. The moment you open up your mouth and say, "I choose God, I choose to do God's will." Suddenly there is as release of power not from your own soul but from the spirit within you. It rises and brings a standard against the enemy. The desire to fall into the temptation disappears instantly. This is instant power released like triggering of the gun, your spiritual weapon. And it's all released by the will.

If Jesus had not spoken God's word He would not have moved into that realm. That is how to overcome the 3 areas of the sins in the world. Say it with your mouth. You have been tempted in many ways by all kinds of thing. When you open you mouth and say I choose the Lord, I choose to be holy or say something in line with the Word, the whole forces of heaven come behind you. So that's how to overcome temptation and all the things of the 3 areas of the sins of the world.

Moses when he made that choice he moved into the first stage of holiness. And it has to do with the will and the spoken word in our life. One of the first things that Isaiah said when he saw the Lord in Isa. 6 was Woe onto me for I am a man of unclean lips. And all these have to do with only the first stage of holiness.

Second Stage of Holiness

Christians think about holiness they think only about freedom from the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. Which is true but it is only the primary stage. Do you know when Moses was free from all these things, Moses was not yet a man full of love? He was not a man that was after the pleasures of the world. He was a godly man. But that is only the first stage.

Do you know that God was not fully pleased with his life yet? God was pleased but not fully pleased yet. There were a few other things he had to learn. In Exodus 2:12 Moses was with the Israelites when he saw the Egyptian beating up a Hebrew slave. He looked this way and that and seeing no one he killed the Egyptian and buried him in the sand.

Nobody saw it except that Hebrew. Then the next day as he went by, the same Hebrew person was having trouble and he tried to bring peace to them. In verse 13 he say why are you striking your companion? They answered who are you to judge over us. In Acts 7:23-24 In verse 23 we are told that when he was 40 years old it happened.

So he must have been visiting his brethren for sometime. And when he was 40 years old that incident happened. It came to pass when he was 40 years old and he was visiting his brethren that, that incident happened. So we know that quite a number of years have taken place. The word full of age is something that occurs earlier than his 40 years. But that incident we are talking about was when Moses was 40 years old.

In verse 25 when he killed the Egyptian he supposed that his brethren would understand that by killing the Egyptian he was their deliverer. Moses had made a choice not to go after the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. Which was commendable of him. Many people can't even make this choice. And during the time when he was 40 years old he knew that God had a call on his life. He knew that God sent him to them. And Moses used his strength to do God's work.

The second stage is not to use your strength, your wisdom, your ideals or your carnal ways to do God's work. Not to use the excuse of the end justify the means. See the first stage of holiness is just freedom from all the things of the world. But the second stage of holiness demands even more. In this higher stage of holiness some of your works may not be sanctified. When Moses killed the Egyptian that was not sanctified. When Moses wanted to prove himself - that was not sanctified. He had the right call but he used the wrong method. He had the right ministry but he used the wrong method to try to fulfill it.

In Acts 7 one of the reasons why he killed the Egyptian is that so that by showing the act of deliverance the Israelites could recognize that he is the hero. He is the one whom God sent. And Moses had to go for retention class for 40 years. Part of his detention class is cleaning sheep. In those 40 years he learnt some thing. He learned that holiness moves into a deeper realm. It means to do things the way God wants it, God's will in God's way.

So here we have the background in Exodus 3. Now he was an old man 80 years old. He was quite a consecrated man by now. Yet when he faces the Lord, the Lord said takes off your shoes for I am holy. You are standing on holy ground.

Lets look at this second stage of holiness. You can not overcome sin gradually. The bible never talks about overcoming sin gradually. The bible says get out of the world, stop sin, repent. No such thing as gradually overcome adultery. Gradually overcome stealing. Last time you steal cars now you steal bicycles. Then you change to stealing pencil boxes. There is no such thing as gradually overcoming sin. The bible said stop it now, choose to go to God. And we have shown how to make that choice. Make a confession and you will find the strength to overcome.

When you move into that realm there is another realm to move on. And that's the realm of learning to do God's will in God's way. And learning not to do anything when God doesn't wants to do anything, which is difficult for human beings. Two things are difficult. To learn to be led by the Spirit and to learn not to do anything when the Spirit did not lead you. When the Spirit does not lead we want to do something and when the Spirit sometimes lead we don't want to work. So when we are talking about the gradual process of holiness we are not talking about overcoming sin. It is a decision that is supposed to be made, cut off immediately.

But there are some other things that take time. That is the gradual learning and inner working of God's method and God's purposes and God's plan. When God tells you what you must find out how. Some people learn the what and they run out without waiting for God to tell them how. And this is the part that God gives a greater time. This is the part where there is a continual working. And the key behind it again is the Word.

Rom. 12 talks about this gradual process. It has nothing to do with sin. But it has to do about learning to do God's will in God's way. Rom. 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

The second stage of sanctification has nothing to do with getting rid of sin. It has to do with learning how to give God good service. Learning how to give a reasonable perfect nice and beautiful service onto the Lord. This is the part that takes time. Notice it says living sacrifice not dead sacrifice.

In the Old Testament they offered dead sacrifice. In the New Testament we offer living sacrifice, which is our body. Because God can not use a dead sacrifice but He can use living sacrifices. And that is His desire to use us to flow through us. Then we understand that we need to be patient in this second realm. Some times as people learn to discover God's will and they are doing God's will but in their own strength, we need to be patient with them. Some times people are moving in the things of God but they mix it with a little bit of themselves. They are sincere but sincerely wrong.

We need to understand that the second stage of holiness takes time. It takes time to learn the compassion, the long suffering and patience of the Lord. Why does it take so long? The reason is to discover God's will and God's method takes time. He does not reveal His whole will at one shot. He reveals it a little bit at a time. Usually if you don't obey when He gives you a little bit there is no more that is coming unless you obey. And during this time process the Word changes us so that we become more tuned to His method and His will.

And in the midst of it God is working in your mind. At the first stage of holiness God works with your mouth. At this second stage God works with your mind. Working with our mouth takes a decision. We choose what to say or not to say. And when we choose God's Word some thing happen. But the second stage of holiness and sanctification is a continuous process. It's the working of God in our mind.

Rom. 12:1-2 Do not be conformed to the world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. And that is the Word of God working inside you changing your thinking, changing your concept, changing us to think like God thinks. The first stage you began to speak like God speaks. The second stage you began to think like God think. And Heb. 4:12 needs to take place. Where the word of God must come into us like a two edge sword separating what is of the soul for what is of the spirit, and discerning the thought and intent of the heart.

It's at the second stage that God deals with your motives. For example you can sweep the floor for your own glory or you can sweep floor for God. In both cases the floor is still swept. Do you know that if you sweep the floor for your own glory, it's a good work but its not sanctified. When you sweep the floor with the intention to do it for

the Lord your sweeping is sanctified. Same work same act but the motives are different. This is only the second stage. Your motives will be dealt with. Your thoughts will be dealt with. Your mind and the intent of your heart will also be dealt with.

That is what king David is saying in that Psalm Search me O God and know my heart. Try me and know my thought. See if there be wicked way in me and lead me into thy path everlasting. He sang that song in Psalm 139. He continuously let God search his heart and life.

And in this second stage continual dedication is important. Continual examination is important. Abraham when he had a son Isaac but God had to test him whether he love Isaac more than Him. There was no sin involved. It only has to do with his heart was the deeper thing. There was nothing to do with the lusts of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. But it has to do with the inner workings of the heart.

When do we pass the second stage? The second stage is a series of examination that never ends. It only ends when Jesus comes. See from time to time God will come to you and put that examination on you. He doesn't put examination like sickness, disease and death. But He will ask you, "Are you willing to give this up?" Yes, ten years later He asks you, "Are you willing to give up?" "I think so." Some thing has happened to your sanctification. See it's a test that is continuous and God will continually deal with your sanctification. As He adds more things into your life there is more dedication and sanctification required.

It's easy for some who has zero account in the bank. A young man who has no wife and no kid and nothing to sing, "I surrender all." No problem; you don't have much to surrender anyway. But if a person has 5 kids, 3 cars, 4 houses and a million dollars in the bank and he comes to God and says, "I surrender all." - that is different. See the prayer of consecration is a prayer that must be continually done. Paul said present your body as a living sacrifice. There is a continuous tense involved. Continually present yourself onto the Lord and maintain this sanctification in your life.

Moses came to that stage when he was 80 years old. I believe throughout those 40 years in the wilderness his motives had been purified. His thoughts have been awakened. Exo. 3 God speaks to him and says to him Moses, Moses, and he said in verse 4 here I am. Then he said do not draw near this place; take your sandals off your feet for the place where you stand is holy ground.

At the first stage God deals with the sins of this world. At the second stage God deals with the styles, the ways the pattern and the motives of the world that may be stuck in you.

Third Stage of Holiness

At the third stage He deals with total separation from the world. How is it done? Wearing shoes and sandals is not a sin. Yet in that experience of God, Moses had the vision of God. God said take off your shoes for you are standing on holy ground. That is dealing with the third level of holiness. At the third level this is what it's like your motives, your thoughts your mind have been dealt with. At the first stage your mouth

is dealt with. At the second stage your mind is dealt with. At the third stage your whole life becomes His. Literally you become a bond slave.

In the Old Testament if you have a slave, the slave can go free in the year of Jubilee. But the bible makes a provision. It says if the slave likes you very much and don't want to go free, you will take the slave and bring him near the door. Put his ear next to the door and nail a hole through his ear and that slave becomes a special slave. He is called a bond slave. And that bond slave is forever.

And that is the third stage where you understand what Paul meant when he said in Acts 20 I go bound in the spirit. At the first stage you experienced the liberty of the Spirit, which is what the Galatians were, where Paul says stand fast in the liberty. At the second you experienced the leading of the Spirit. At the third stage you experience the bonding of the Spirit. He claims you for His own.

And these are some of the things that happen. See wearing sandals and shoes are a usual part of the people's life. But the teaching behind it is here, which Paul expresses it in this way:

There are many things that are lawful but they are not expedient - and he will not do that.

So at the third stage you not only have your motives and your thoughts and mind purified, God will ask you to give up things that are lawful for others. And you question God and say, "God, why me?" At the third stage He makes demands on your life. Demands that He normally would not make. You never make demands of a normal slave. But you can make demands on a bond slave. For the bond slave has made a choice whereas a normal slave has no choice. God began to make demands on your life. God begins to wake you at 3 am, wake you at 4 am, and wake you at 5 am.

God wants to bring you into the third stage of holiness. Where you become part of God, you become bonded to God's work and ministry. If you dedicate yourself to the intercessory ministry you experience that sometimes God wakes you up at 3 am and tells you something is happening and asks you to pray. Do you know that God will not do that to normal Christians? If you are a Christian and say, "God use me whatever way whenever you like." You make that dedication and sanctify yourself in that manner like the slave coming to his master and say, "I choose to be a bond slave."

God makes demands on your life that He does not make on others. You pay the price then you can understand what Kathryn Khulman say when she said, "I had no choice." She was not talking about the normal area of choice that we understand we got a choice. She was talking about the higher realm of consecration where you choose to surrender even the most precious part of your human being your will to be bonded to the Lord. And God can call you anytime; He can do what He likes to you.

I spoke to a man of God who surrendered himself to God so much that he said sometimes in his meetings God made him do things he never does before. I said don't you have control. He said yes. I have laid myself on the altar and said God take my free will. In the Old Testament you see the same thing. When you enter the Outer Court you see the brazen altar and the lever. Those are cleansing from all the things of the world. There are some Christians that live only in the outer court. They only

experience holiness as freedom from the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life. These are outer court Christians.

But there are other Christians who have entered in and moved into the Holy Place. Where they understand what it means to be moved by the Spirit, led by the Spirit. They know what it is to pray and to worship the Lord. They know what it is to know the power of the name of Jesus working through their lives. These are holy place Christians. They move into the holy place. But God's Spirit is crying and groaning for Christians who will become the Holiest Place Christians, Christians who move into the most holy place. But there is a price to pay. We have to be prepared to do things and give up things that are even normal.

You see the pattern in the Old Testament. You see some of the prophets in the Old Testament: one is asked to sleep on one side for so many days. They have lost their very being as a human being. They don't live like human beings any more. Their whole life became a message. Isaiah has to walk naked that is not natural. That is unsociable. Unless we understand the depths of God's holiness we don't understand how He works with these Old Testament prophets. And how He works in the life of Jesus. We must understand that God is calling for Christians to live in the Most Holy Place. You and I and every Christians have a potential to move there. In the New Testament there is no such thing as one priest. The bible says we are all priests onto the Lord. We all have only one high priest Jesus. And the book of Hebrews tells us come boldly into the Most Holy Place. But there are not many Christians that dare to venture into the Most Holy Place. God demands a bonding in your life that He never demands before.

3. THE PRIESTLY GARMENTS

In the earlier messages we have touched on the degrees of holiness. Some Christians live in the Outer Court all the time. All they know about Jesus is just the power of the Blood, salvation and all the benefits of the Word of God in the outer court. And that's all they do and that's all they are. But they don't understand the things that are in the Holy Place. So there are different degrees of holiness. What God wants us to do is to live in the realm in the Most Holy Place, which is the highest degree of holiness. We are going to see what this high degree of holiness is like. In our first session on holiness we touched on how holiness is connected to love. And it's different from righteousness. Holiness has to do with the attitude of the heart while righteousness has to do with the fulfillment of the law.

In this message we are going to look at the book of Exodus 39. We are going to see the garments of the priest and the work of the law of holiness.

Exo. 39:1 And of the blue and purple and scarlet stuff they made finely wrought garments, for ministering in the holy place; they made the holy garments for Aaron; as the Lord had commanded Moses.

These garments are called the holy garments. They are garments that are to be worn in the presence of God. In order to live in God's holiness and live in the Most Holy Place we must know how to appropriate the New Testament equivalent and fulfillment of these garments. Without these garments the priests could not stand in God's presence. It is a requirement, it is an essential for them to put on these garments as long as they are in God's presence otherwise they would die.

Our God has opened a way through the Blood of Jesus for us to remain in His presence and holiness all the time. And we will look at it here in Exodus 39. Remember that whenever He speaks of gold He speaks about divinity. Silver symbolizes redemption and the redeemed life. When Jesus redeemed us He restored us to all those things that He wanted Adam to have. That is redemption to be the man or woman that God has intended for you to be.

Lets give an example. Suppose you were the owner of a house, with a nice garden and lots of fruit trees. And you have many servants under you and you have a bountiful harvest every year. Somebody comes takes the whole house and farm and puts you in prison. Jesus comes along and catches hold of this person who is the devil, crushes his head and takes him away from your property. Then He takes you out from the prison by the hand and puts you back in your farm and house. You have just been redeemed. Redemption speaks of restoration. You are restored to what you should have and what is rightfully yours.

But redemption only stops there. Jesus didn't just restore to us all that belongs to man, the authority and dominion over this earth. Jesus did something more. Jesus besides kicking opened the prison doors, taking you out and placing you in your own farm, your own house with all your fruit trees, Jesus also says, "Before I leave I am going to take a part of My life and put it in you." That is divinity. There is an impartation of life. Therefore when Jesus Christ came and redeemed us from the curse of the law, He not only brought us back to the position of Adam, He also brought us beyond the position of Adam. He brought us to the point of restoration and redemption, which is

represented by silver. And He brought us beyond it to be like God, to be seated in the heavenly places with God, and that imparted life of divinity is represented by gold. Jesus became a part of man and we became a part of God higher than the angels. So what Jesus brought for us is beyond what Adam could even conceive. So gold speaks about divinity an impartation of life that is different from silver. We need both. We need to be restored and we need the life of God.

Now here in chapter 39 verse 1 the color that is used for the priestly garment is blue. Blue speaks about Jesus Christ the Son of God. Then you have purple, and that symbolized Jesus Christ the King of Kings. Then you have red or scarlet which is Jesus Christ the Savior of the world.

In verse 2 he made the ephod of gold, blue and purple and scarlet stuff and fine twined linen. Fine linen speaks about Jesus Christ the Son of man, the perfect man, the servant for us. And He made us like unto Him servants of others.

The colors represent all the 4 gospels. The gospel of John, Jesus is portrayed as the Son of God, and that is represented by blue. Then we have Matthew, which shows forth Jesus Christ as the King of Kings, the Messiah, and that is the color purple. Then you have Mark Gospel which describes Jesus Christ as the Son of man, and that is linen. Then you have Luke which portrays Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world, the Lamb of God, and that is scarlet. All the 4 aspects of Jesus Christ in the 4 gospels are represented by the colors of the priestly garments.

In verse 3 And the gold leaf was hammered out and cut into threads to work into the blue and purple and the scarlet stuff, and into the fine twined linen, in skilled design.

Notice here that silver is never used. You have passed the point of silver. You are now going into gold. When you get into God's Holy Place do you notice that silver is not present in the Holy of holies or the Most Holy place? Every piece of the furniture and the utensils are made of gold. In the outer court all the utensils are made of bronze. But silver can not enter into the presence of God's divinity; gold is demanded instead.

The silver thread together with the scarlet and the purple and the blue and the white linen are woven together and made into a piece of cloth. That tells us that in order to stand in God's holy presence we need to put on Jesus Christ the Son of God His heavenly nature. Jesus Christ the King of Kings His authority. Jesus Christ the Savior of the world the Blood of Jesus. Jesus Christ the Son of man His humanity. We become the redeemed man that is of light and nature of Jesus Christ. We need to put on all those things that are bound together by His life. It was the golden thread, which binds all the garments together. It is the life of Jesus that imparts into us all the aspects of Jesus. Without Him you can not do anything. Without Him you can not have a heavenly nature. Without Him you can not demonstrate the authority or the power of His redemption His Blood or the full sonship of what a man should be in God.

In verses 6 and 7 The onyx stones were prepared, enclosed in settings of gold filigree and engraved like the engravings of a signet, according to the names of the sons of Israel. And he set them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod, to be stones of remembrance for the sons of Israel as the Lord had commanded Moses.

So there were a few things that he made. He made shoulder blades. He made the breastplate and he made the turban. All were made of the same 5 types of materials: Gold, blue, purple and scarlet and linen. Five colors altogether are involved in the making of the priestly garment. Five is the number of grace. As we learn to move into God's holiness we find that silver is not involved but gold is required. It tells us something. Holiness is not just what you don't do. Many people think that holiness is not committing sins, being morally upright and righteous. But that is not holiness. They are merely talking about righteousness.

Holiness is being like God in His nature, in His love, in His uprightness, in His justice. There is not so much of what you do or you don't do but who you are. That is holiness. How alike to the nature of God are you? When you are like God you will not put up with sin. From the human prospective we always see it backwards. We see the sins of the world and we think that to be holy we must get rid of the sins. Then we think that getting rid of sin is holiness. That's not true. It is because He is holy that we get rid of the sin. Holiness is God's nature. Holiness is being like God Himself.

In verse 8 he made the breastplate then in verse 22 he made the robe of the ephod of the woven all of blue. It emphasizes the heavenly nature, the likeness of God. And the high priest is the one who gets into God's presence. What we want to do here is to see how the high priest functions and puts on this garment in order to know God's realm of holiness.

Lev. 8:1-5 The Lord said to Moses, "Take Aaron and his sons with him, and the garments, and the anointing oil, and the bull of the sin offering, and the two rams, and the basket of unleavened bread; and assemble all the congregation at the door of the tent of meeting." And Moses did as the Lord commanded him; and the congregation was assembled at the door of the tent of meeting. And Moses said to the congregation, "This is the thing which the Lord has commanded to be done."

Now the high priest is the type and picture of what the church should go through. The high priest is not just a picture of the minister of God. If you think that the high priest just represents the minister then your conclusion is that only the minister can enter the Most Holy Place. That is not true. We are all kings and priests in Christ. The Most Holy Place is available to every born again believer. That means this high priest picture is a picture of every Christian what God wants him to be and to do.

There is an order in which the garments are made. When the garments were made God emphasized from the outside. There is a certain order in which the garments are put on. You can not just put on the turban first. You have to put on part by part. There is a systematic way. No body wears a coat and then wears a shirt. There is a certain order in which God has the high priest put on his garment. And there is certain step involved which has to do with our relationship with God.

The First Step: Washing with the Word of God

Verse 6 And Moses brought Aaron and his sons, and washed them with water. That is No.1 before he could even have the garment on him he must first be washed. And the water that they used is the water from laver. The laver represents Jesus the Word of God. In case those of you who have never heard this before, the brazen altar represents Jesus the Lamb, laver Jesus the Word of God, candlestick Jesus the

baptizer in the Holy Spirit, table of show bread Jesus the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, altar of incense Jesus Christ the high priest. The glory of God that descends on the Ark is Jesus Christ the glory and the fullness of God.

Each aspect emphasizes an aspect of truth. The brazen altar represents the power of the Lord. The laver is the power of the Word. The candlestick is the power of the Spirit. The showbread is the power of the name of Jesus. The altar of incense is the power of praise and worship. And as you enter the Most Holy Place the power of the glory of God over the Ark of the Covenant is the fullness of the glory of Jesus Christ.

Before Aaron and his sons put on the priestly garments, they must first be at the laver, which symbolizes Jesus as the Word of God. Before Aaron could even get into the realm of God's holiness he must know God through the Word. The Word must cleanse him. The Word must transform him, his very nature and being. God wants to reveal Himself to your spirit; He wants to reveal Himself to your soul and manifest through your body. He wants to manifest Himself spirit, soul and body to you. But before anything happens the Word must cleanse your spirit, soul and body.

When you were born again First Peter says we are born of the incorruptible Word. That means the Word of God has entered our spirit and saved us. The day you accepted Christ your spirit is saved. Your spirit could fellowship with God. Then our souls need to be renewed. Need to be conformed to God's Word. And our bodies need to be in line with the Word of God. Part of the process of knowing God in His holiness is found in the renewing of the mind.

Rom. 12:1-2 I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. And the word transform comes from the Greek word 'metamorphoomai' which means a change. And it is used in the bible in Mk. 9:2 and Matt. 17:2 to refer to the incident when Jesus Christ was praying on the Mount of Transfiguration. Lk. 9 tells us that as He prayed His garment and skin were transformed. There was a change that took place. When your thoughts become renewed your very soul and body become transformed to the nature of Christ. There is a physical as well as a soul transformation that takes place through a cleansing of the Word of God.

Turn to II Cor. 4:6 For it is God who said, "Let light shine our of darkness." Who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ? Now that is the glory of God that is shining in our hearts.

Look at II Cor. 3:17-18 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled faces, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being changed into his likeness from one degree of glory to another for this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

As we behold the Lord we are transformed. We behold Him with unveiled faces. What is the veil? The context of this passage is found in verse 14 where the veil refers to the veil of the mind. It talks about the Jews who still read the scriptures in the synagogue and Paul says there is a veil. Not like the veil of Moses but a veil in their mind that prevents them from seeing and knowing the glory of God. The veil is in

their mind. Paul says that it was still there. When you are born again your heart is opened but your mind can hinder you. Your mind needs renewal to be washed and cleansed before it can move into the holiness and the fellowship of God's holiness.

That cleansing process brings about the light. The opposite of light is darkness. The first thought in holiness is righteousness. Righteousness is a gift that starts from the heart and transforms your thoughts. People think that when they are no more sinning they are okay with God. That is just the cleansing. That is just receiving the righteousness. That is just the beginning not the end. Sometimes in the Pentecostal Movement when people get baptized in the Spirit they thought they have finally got it. They forgot that the baptism in the Spirit started at the beginning in Acts 2 and not at the end in Acts 28. Righteousness is only the beginning. Freedom from sin of thought, word and action is only the first stage. The cleansing must take place through the power of the word.

That is why Jesus Christ say in John 14:20-21 In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in You. He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.

That is only the first step in holiness - obedience to His word, the cleansing of His word. That's only step one. You haven't even put on the other garments yet. First John tells us what God is like: holiness is being like God. The first revelation of God that First John brings out is God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all. Before he says God is love now he says God is light. Some people try to know love before they know righteousness. You can not, you will get mixed up with what the world calls lust. Love and lust are not compatible at all. There is a cult going on that call themselves Children of Love. They talk about love that has no righteousness involved. No morality involved. That is not love it is lust.

Holiness is to be like God. Before we can understand the fullness of God's nature, which is Love, we must move into His light. That first step of allowing in the light is through the cleansing of the Word. Only the Word can separate your soul and your spirit. Only the Word can discern the thought and intent of your heart.

Heb. 4:12 For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

This is the power of the Word. So here we have Moses putting Aaron through the process of cleansing. The Old Testament has an outward form. But in the New Testament it is an inward form. They are the shadows of which we have the real manifestation.

Let look at Lev. 8:6 Moses brought Aaron and his sons, and washed them with water. That is the first step in the holiness of God: wash them with water. Cleansing by the Word where all darkness is dealt with before righteousness comes first and then after that holiness.

The Second Step: The Fine Linen of the Restored Humanity

Then the second thing is found in verse 7. He put the coat on him and girded him with the sash. What is the coat?

Look back at Exo. 39:27 They also made the coats, woven of fine linen, for Aaron and his sons and the turban of fine linen, and caps of fine linen, and the linen breeches of the twined linen and of blue and purple and scarlet stuff, embroidered with needle work as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Notice there is no gold involved yet. The linen is made out of pure white thread. And linen represents Jesus Christ Son of man. So they put on the linen coat. So you have the first picture where you see Aaron washed. The second picture that you see of Aaron would be the white linen placed on him and Aaron is now clothed all in white. Then it says he put a sash around Aaron. If somebody wears a white dress and put on a 4 colored sash would you have notice it? When you have received the righteousness of God, the Blood has cleansed you. You understand through God's Word your gift of righteousness.

The next thing you experience is restoration. Restoration is when you become the son of man that God wants you to be. What God has intended man to be? Jesus the Son of man, the perfect man. That's the linen - the white linen is Jesus the perfect man. You could become the perfect person. Your personality is perfected.

Do you know that sometimes people's personality is not perfected yet? There are hurts and things in their souls that have not been touched by the Word of God. When the Word of God touches you your real personality comes out. Not all of us have good background. Sometimes as we grow into adult life there are certain parts of our personality that is not actually the true us. They were never a part of you in the first place. Some people say I have a weakness for alcohol. Or I have a weakness for cigarettes. Were you born with those weaknesses? No. Somewhere along the path of life you were introduced to it and now you are an adult and you say you have a weakness. It was not in you. It came into you. It was never a part of your nature. Or you say I have a bad temper. You were not born with a bad temper. It's not your personality. Don't accept it as your personality. Can you think about Jesus as a bad tempered person. Thank God He is not. So there are many things of our character that actually were not a part of us. We need the word of God to cut them off.

When you have gone through the washing. No. 1 you got clothing where you begin to manifest in your life your true personality. We are talking about holy garments. God never intended for you to be artificial. He made you with a different thumbprint. No two persons have the same thumbprint. You are unique. That is a realm, which I call God's special unique personality and soul that He has made in you. You were meant to be you and not somebody else. That we must have in our Christian life. We can learn from all Christians but you are not supposed to be a copycat. You can imitate them as they imitate Christ. But learn the principle: don't try to be somebody else. Let the perfect you come out. Learn for apostle Paul says be imitators of me as I imitate Christ. You learn from every person but the purpose is that you will reach to the fullness of the person God wants you to be. There is no such thing as the Billy Graham of Asia. You be yourself in God, as God wants you to be that's all.

So here we have the garments on Aaron. The first picture of him is that he is naked and he is washed. The second picture of him is that he is dressed in white linen. To be the high priest if he has any spot he will be disqualified. So your first experience of righteousness comes when you were naked before God. You have no righteousness of your own. All your works were filthy rags. You don't come to God with your garment. You come naked before God. Just as you are you come. You can not say, "God I have served you for so many years and I have given so much here and so much there. I have been a good person and have been giving alms here and giving alms there." All our works are filthy rags. You have to start naked. And let the Word of God start cleansing you. Then only are you clothed with the white garment. You become fully the man or the woman God made you to be.

The Third Step: The Blue Ephod of Heavenly Minded

Now in chapter 8 of Leviticus they clothed him with the robe. And you notice in Exodus. 39:22 it says he made the robe of the ephod of the woven work all of blue. So the third thing he clothes him with the robe and put the ephod on him. What color was the ephod? Blue. He took on the heavenly nature. Blue is Jesus Christ the Son of God. Some people live so much on this earth that they forget that they are to be heavenly minded. If you examine their prayers, you can measure how much holiness is in their life. If 90% of your prayers are regarding the things of this life, it tells you how much you are thinking about heaven. In the Lord's Prayer we do begin by asking for our daily bread. Christians should be seeking to develop the heavenly nature in them right now. You were born again not just for the fact that you have now been saved and you are on your way to heaven. If all God wanted you to do is to bring you to heaven, then when you are born again He should have taken you straight away home.

But the higher purpose of the Christian life is that right now He is preparing us for heaven. And He is developing His nature for us to function in the depths of His kingdom that is to come. We should be like people who when you have done the things of this world you would run to your closet and pray God, "I missed you. I missed your presence. I only want to be with you." Then you leave His presence very reluctantly. Some people have more zeal for the supermarket than they have for the prayer closet. They are more interested in the things of this world. All that the world can offer excite them more than the things of God. It is like they have put the blue clothing on the inside and put the white one outside. What God wants us to do is to primarily prepare for heaven. Examine your prayer life how much it has on this earth and how much it has on the things of heaven.

In church history I read about a man name John Fletcher. He was in the Methodist Revival with John Wesley. He has a heavenly nature on his life. The blue ephod was so strong on him that when he left his town the people cried and said in all the history of this town there has only been one angel like you. Now we lose you. When he died John Wesley said he had never met a man closer to God than John Fletcher. These are the men I admire who walk with God and live with God. Their lives revolve around God.

Today there are sometimes evangelists who focus on the things of this earth. It's just like people who put on a white linen and running around with it. But they have not put on the blue ephod. You will notice that sometimes a ministry has only the linen without the blue ephod. But to have the heavenly perspective the ministry must enter

deeper into the heavenly perspective. If right now God were to send an angel from heaven this place will radiate with glory at the heavenly presence. There is something about the heavenly presence of God that gives out light far beyond any luminous object in this earth.

When Stephen stood in the trial of the Jews, in the book of Acts 7 it tells us that they saw his face light up like an angel. You know why? He saw heaven. He says, "I see the Lord standing at the right hand of the Father." Only those who have seen the light of heaven, who have clothed themselves with the blue ephod would know the depths of heaven. The things of heaven are hidden from the eyes of this world. There are not enough people entering into the heavenly realm. We have enough Christians who are focusing on the earthly realm, and all thinking of my problem, my this, and my that.

There is something different in your life when you catch a hold of the heavenly light and heavenly vision of God. The things of this world grow dim. There is something different about a Christian who has put on a blue ephod because they are no longer getting worried or upset about the things of this life. You have probably met Christians who sometimes get upset over physical and material things. When a little bit of their physical thing gets messed up they lose their temper and their whole day is spoiled. But when you catch a sight of the heavenly realm the things of this life become immaterial. No doubt we still take care of the earthly responsibilities - I don't mean that we care less about that - but you don't have any more ties with them. There are so many Christians who are tied to their earthly possessions.

Long ago when I was starting the ministry I met this guy who came in our evening service in the Baptist Church. One day he came with his tears running down his eyes. I asked him what happened. He said somebody has stolen his guitar. Through time I began to understand that there are too many Christians who don't have their blue ephod on. They are too tied to the things of this world. Sometimes it may not be your guitar; it could be your car. You just bought your car; it's nice and clean. You came to the church and you are one of the last one out. Somebody missed his bus and said to you, "Could you give me a lift to where I could get a bus." You look at him, his shirt stinks, his pants also stink. Maybe if you are over fussy you say, "Wait a minute. Let me borrow some cloth." You put the cloth all over your car. Then you say, "Now I am ready to take you."

There are things in this world that we are too tied to that we can't use them for the glory of God. Let's say if you go to heaven, you meet the Lord Jesus. Jesus doesn't care how new your car was. Jesus cares how much you use the car for His glory. See there is a difference in the way we evaluate on this life and the way God evaluates it. When you have put on the blue ephod there is a division between the things of this world and you. You do your best to maintain your earthly goods and fulfill your earthly duties but you don't get attached to them. If they get a little bit messy you are not hurt any more. If the matter still hurts you then you have not put on the blue ephod. But if it does not hurt you any more there is something that is done in your life. You have become heavenly minded and you see the things of this life as just tools to be used for God's glory. Never mind if the thing is mine; put it there if it can be used for God's glory. If it is lying there idle it would be of no use; leave it there to be used for God's glory. Let God's people benefit from it. See there is something that is released inside you. The blue ephod has increased your level of relationship with God and you have entered a higher realm of holiness.

The Fourth Step : The 5 colored Ephod of Christlikeness

The blue ephod has a sash. Look at Leviticus 8:7 and he girded him with the intricately woven band of the ephod and with it tied the ephod on him. According to Exodus 39:2 there is another ephod that is over the other ephod. In verse 5 and the intricately woven band of his ephod that was on it was as the same workmanship woven of gold, blue and purple and scarlet thread and fine woven linen. Now this second ephod is called the intricately woven band of ephod and it has 5 colors gold, blue, purple, scarlet and fine linen. See the 4 pictures you have of Aaron is that after you see him in blue there is another intricately woven sash of the ephod that was put on him. And that sash is to hold the shoulder blades and to hold the breastplate. So they put the sash on him and you can see the golden colored added and there are 4 colors now.

Now you have moved into the realm where you become a representative of Jesus to others. You're not only the sign of a redeemed man. You now become Christlike to people where people could see Jesus in you. You have moved into the heavenly realm and now at the fourth stage you become like a representative of Christ. People could see Jesus in you. The heavenly nature is still there blue. The scarlet is still there the Blood of Jesus. And the purple the authority flows together. And then you have fine linen. They see you and they know it is you talking. But yet they hear the voice of Jesus speaking through you. Your likeness of God has taken a deeper realm. You are now what Jesus said in John 17 He is fully in you and you are fully in Him.

Let me express that differently. When Jesus was on this earth every thing that the Father wanted to do He did. And every thing He did was what the Father and the Holy Spirit wanted. The beautiful thing about the Trinity is that what the Spirit wants to do is also what the Father and the Son want to do. What the Son wants to do is also what the Father and the Spirit wants to do. And what the Father wants to do is also what the Spirit and the Son want to do. That's the beauty of the Trinity. Never once do you find them working alone. They always work together. There is a tri unity about them.

And what has happened at this fourth stage is you have moved into a position where whatever God wanted to do is also what the Spirit wants to do and what Jesus wants to do and what the Father wants to do. And then what you want to do is also the Father wants to do and Jesus wants to do and the Spirit wants to do. All are in perfect union. They are one with the Father, with the Son and with the Holy Spirit. That is the higher level of holiness. You begin to receive a new revelation of holiness. See holiness is not just getting rid of sin. It talks about a degree of union with Jesus.

Even In Eph. 3 Paul prays for the Ephesians that Christ may dwell in their heart. Why, because there are degrees of Christ dwelling in us. There are degrees of union together. There are differences of union but the strongest binding union is that union of the Godhead with us where Jesus said that we dwell in God and God dwells in us. Wouldn't that be lovely when you are sleeping you are still in union with God. You could get up from your union with God and say peace be still. You wouldn't even need your devotion life because your devotional life is 24 hours. You don't compartmentalize your life anymore. Your whole life is a flow of divinity. Your whole life flows in God's will; you love the Word; you love to spend time with Him. Your whole life is a flow of praise and worship.

Jesus was sleeping on a boat and a storm was coming and the ship was sinking. They woke Jesus up. When Jesus woke up He did not say, "Let me do my devotion first." When some of you get up in the morning you have to take authority over some thing that make you don't feel like not doing your devotion. You have only just put on the white linen. Maybe you have just put on the blue ephod. You have not known the level of union yet. We should walk so closely with God that 24 hours your life belongs to God. I don't mean that you don't have devotional life. That is basic and you must go beyond the basic. You can get up, you haven't read the bible, you haven't even prayed in tongues yet but your life is in union with God. You get up and straight away you can say, "Peace be still." That same authority that flowed in Jesus also flows in you. Your devotion becomes your whole life.

Kathryn Khulman walked a little bit in God. People tried to pin point when she spend her devotional life they could not. When you hear her speak you could hear the union she had with the Lord. She had paid a price. When people like David Whickers was a young strong man who was following her around. He was panting away after following her for several days. He was getting out of breath and doesn't know how she gets all that strength. And they found out that she prayed all the time. When she sleeps she slept with that dream and vision of God. When she wakes up she wakes up with that dream and vision of that soul and her life ministry. You reach a stage where the will of God consumes you. And you die only for the will of God, which has consumed your being. The last thing on your mind before you sleep is the will of God. You wake up with the will of God. You have gone beyond the stage of the struggling and fighting. You are in union with God in the perfect wonderful relationship with God. Sometimes some of us reached that point and we pull out. God wants to train us where we reached that point we stay with Him.

I enjoy fellowshiping with people like Vernon Falls who have the miracle anointing in his ministry. One thing I like about him is that he is praying in the Spirit all the time. But its people like that who starts tapping into this realm that in the last days God is raising up. The church is not just going to walk at the side. The church is going to walk in the depths of God's presence. I present before you the will and the true purpose of God, where in waking or in sleeping you are in that union with God. It is built into you; it consumed you. You are not even thinking about whether you want to sin or not. You are thinking about God and God's will all the time. The perfect union with God and the key in it coming to pass is the love that you have for the Lord.

The Fifth Step : The Adornment of Union with the Godhead

The fifth and last area is union with the Godhead.

Lev. 8:8-9 And he placed the breastplate on him, and in the breastplate he put the Urim and the Thummim. And he set the turban upon his head, and on the turban, in front, he set the golden plate, the holy crown, as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Then he brings the pieces of jewels and placed them on the shoulder blade and the breastplate as adornment. And on his turban there is a crown that says Holiness onto the Lord. These are what I call the adorning since these are jewels. For Aaron it was the will of God. And a little bit of that can be seen here between Moses and Aaron. When Moses left the wilderness, he complained to God and told God he can not speak

properly. Then God said this to him, “Aaron shall be your spokesman. And you will be like God to him.” There is a relationship there.

Now the adorning means that you begin to take on part of the authority, the anointing and the function of the Godhead. You begin to take on as a representative of God. You are in union with God. Now you take on a part of the work of God to the people. In Aaron’s time when Aaron was the high priest you know what Aaron represented. Aaron represented God to the people. He was the high priest. He represented the people to God and he represented God to the people. What God wants is that the body of Christ reaches the point of holiness where they become consumed with the being of God. And where they began to bear the burden and the work of God.

A little bit of that can be seen in the life of Paul in Phil. 3 Paul says that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His suffering being conformed to His death. Fellowship of His suffering.

Acts 20:22-24 And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, bound in the Spirit, not knowing what may befall me there; except that the Holy spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may accomplish my course and the ministry, which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

I believe Paul lived only for Jesus. And he reached the point between just hearing the Spirit, learning from the Spirit, walking in the Spirit, being led by the Spirit - he is being bound in the Spirit.

Jesus was at that point when He was at the Garden of Gethsemane and He said, “Father if it be possible take this cup from me nevertheless not my will but your will be done.” He was intricately woven into the will of God. He was bonded to the will of God that whatever God wants Him to do He will be able to flow out and perform them. He was in union with God but that union now goes further. That union demands a sacrifice. And for Jesus He was willing to die to fulfill the Father’s will.

Paul was willing to die for the Lord. Remember how they tried to stop him from going to Jerusalem. They say don’t go but he says I am not only willing to go but I am willing to die for Him. Unless you are willing to die for the Lord you are not ready to live for the Lord. At that point you don’t even consider yourself as belonging to yourself but you are like a pawn in the hands of God. If God were to deem it necessary for you to sacrifice your life to fulfill part of His will, would you be a ready pawn to be sacrificed by Him like Paul?

And in that realm of holiness that some reached God gave them a special crown called the martyr crown. And in this realm of holiness that is no longer when you get up what shall I do but when you get up what is the Lord speaking to you today. You are a bond slave to God. It’s the depth of holiness and the most perfected stage of union where God could trust you to do certain thing for Him. Before God trusts you to do some thing He tests you to see your faithfulness. And you reached a point where God could entrust that job to you.

I remember somewhere in Philippines the headlines came out about a woman who was demon possessed. It came out in the papers, it came out on T.V. She was

screaming and the marks appeared on her body. And Lester Sumrall was praying to the Lord. And the Holy Spirit said, "Son I want you to go to her house and cast the demon out." The whole nation was in an uproar because of that. And he said, "Lord please send somebody else." And he began to avoid it but the Holy Spirit kept convicting him. See you don't just go to something that is a national news and do the work of the Lord. That was a great burden that took his heart. And he kept saying, "Lord send somebody else. I will pray." Then the Lord told him, "I have nobody else." When the Lord said, "I have nobody else" he cried and he said, "Lord I will go." And he went there finally after a few days. The first day the people laughed at him. He commanded but there was no manifestation yet. The manifestation started coming in the next few days. The first day the papers said, "Preacher is defeated." Finally when the demon left the Mayor of the town came and said, "Whatever you want we will give you." He said, "Give me a place to build a church." And today it's the largest church in Manila. The church started by Lester Sumrall.

See the Lord said, "I have nobody else." Why is that so when there are so many of His workers and ministers? It is because not all have reached the realm where they are bound in the Spirit. I wonder should the Lord have a mighty work to do. And the Lord looks down on this country and says, "I have this work to do. Whom shall I send?" Will the answer be: "There is nobody." Is there nobody who loves the Lord? No, everybody loves the Lord to some extent. If you are born again you love the Lord to some extent but how much do you love the Lord. Do you love the Lord to extend that you no longer belong to yourself but to the Lord 100%. Whatever the Lord tells you to do that it.

Have you reached that point of union? Have you put on your linen? Have you put on your ephod? Have you put on all those ornaments? So that now you are something crowned by the Lord. That the Lord could trust you in any area He desires. And that is the ultimate end of holiness. To be so much in God that God could use you. The cry of God is still going out, "Whom shall I send?" There are many who desire to do something but they are not committed enough for God to use them. There are not many that are bound to the Lord.

We just had a ministers' conference and I preached on the things of the Lord. A minister came to me and said after he has heard me speak about commitment to the Lord, he thought about the price to pay to hear the Holy Spirit. And he came to me and said he has a terrible habit. He always watches T.V. and he couldn't stop. As I fellowshiped with that minister I discovered that there are not only degrees of commitment. I also discovered that God uses a minister not in proportion to their talent, but in proportion to how much a minister has really given himself to the Lord. Even among ministers there are different degrees.

When I was in Australia, a minister took me out for a meal. He stood in front of a T.V. and he saw me looking at him. He felt guilty and he said, "I need this for relaxation." It is not just one or two similar cases but there are many. Many who don't have commitment, who are not bound to the Lord. I wonder if the Lord Jesus stands here and says, "Whoever is willing to die for Me right now, please come here in this place." There may be only a few who would come even though there are many gathered here. Many would say, "I am willing to be a Christian but don't talk about dying for You here." If you are not willing to die for Him you are not willing to live

for Him. How much is your commitment? I know we have families, we have this, we have children we have all these people who are dependent on us.

But when you love the Lord, the Lord will not accept any lesser commitment in love. Part of the holiness means the ultimate possession of your life by the Lord. The Lord is merciful. He will not deprive the young. He will not deprive you. But He picks people who are bound to Him so that He could send them to any place anywhere. If the Lord were to tell you to go to a place all alone for 10 years and minister to the needy, you would still go. We need that type of commitment from the ministers of God. And we also need that type of commitment from the disciples of Jesus Christ. People love the Lord but they don't love the Lord enough. He loved us so much but we love Him so little. Talk about spending time with Him 1 or 2 hours and people complain. Not many churches are willing to spend 5, 6 hours onto the Lord. You know what they tell me. People that are saved, born again, home in heaven, and God asks, "Please give me one day." They say, "No Lord 2 hours is enough." They don't love the Lord. They say, "We love the Lord" but their actions show they didn't love the Lord that much. Talk about commitment to the Lord and giving our life to the Lord.

The love that the body of Christ is showing to the Lord is despicable. After all He has given His best His Son and the Holy Spirit and we love Him that much. And holiness means completely clothed and adorned to this point when you and God are like one unity. God in you and you in God. I wish to God that there were more. And in this life we pray to God that there may be more. And it is my hope and my faith in each one of you that God truly raise up some more people who would love the Lord to that amount that we really can say Lord we love you. The bride does not love the bridegroom enough. The bridegroom has loved so much but the bride does not love enough. Most of the time we are still tied to this world. We don't even have our blue ephod on. There are too many things in this world to take care off. What do you do in your spare time? You think about all your leisure and pleasures. You don't run to the Lord every spare moment you can. The love for the Lord is not enough in you for the world to see Jesus in you.

4. THE REWARDS OF HOLINESS

Turn with me to the book of Leviticus. In the last message we talked about the garments of the priest. And we left off after we saw the final stage of the garment being placed on him. In this message we want to see the results of holiness.

Lev. 8:7-9 And he put on him the coat, and girded him with the girdle, and clothed him with the robe, and put the ephod upon him, and girded him with the skillfully woven band of the ephod, binding it to him therewith. And he placed the breastplate on him, and in the breastplate he put the Urim and the Thummim. And he set the turban upon his head, and on the turban, in front, he set the golden plate, the holy crown, as the Lord had commanded Moses.

According to Exodus 39 that when they put the ephod they also put on the shoulder 12 pieces of jewels bearing the names of all the 12 tribes of Israel, 6 on each side. And the breastplate contains all the 12 names of the tribes of Israel.

The turban that is worn by the priest with the crown, which says Holiness onto the Lord, speaks about authority. See the head is a symbol of authority. And when a crown is placed on the head it symbolizes the authority that functions from Aaron's life as a high priest.

And the breastplate that is placed there symbolized love. And inside the breastplate is placed the Urim and Thummim, which symbolizes the word of God and the Spirit of God. The translation in Hebrew for Urim and Thummim means light and perfection. So those two stones together represent the Word and the Spirit that needs to be in the depths of our heart.

And on the shoulders of the priest rest the pieces of jewel, bearing the six names of each one of the tribes of Israel. And the pieces of jewelry on the shoulders symbolized the work and the burden of the priest. See the shoulders are where they carry burdens. The shoulders carry the work of the Lord. The yoke of the Lord is placed on your shoulders. When there is work to be done God usually causes His Spirit or the hand of God to come upon some of the men in the bible. The hand of God symbolized the anointing and the power for the work of God.

So there are 3 areas that we see here, the authority, the love and the work, which speaks about power and the anointing of God. All these 3 are the finer clothing for the high priest.

Exodus 39 where we see some of the garments for the high priest.

Exodus. 39:18-21 Two ends of the two cords they had attached the two settings of filigree; thus they attached it in front the shoulder pieces of the ephod. Then they made two rings of gold, and put them the two ends of the breastplate, on its inside edge next to the ephod. And they made two rings of gold, and attached them in front to the lower part of the two shoulder pieces of the ephod, as its joining above the skillfully woven band of the ephod. And they bound the breastplate by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue, so that it should lie upon the skillfully woven band of the ephod, and that the breastplate should not come loose from the ephod; as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Then verse 30 and 31 And they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote upon it an inscription, like the engraving of a signet, "Holy to the Lord." And they tied to it a lace of blue, to fasten it on the turban above; as the Lord had commanded Moses.

So we see the 3 pieces of the decorations that are placed are symbols. They are shadows of something else. We have connected the priestly garments with holiness in our earlier messages. Holiness will result in 3 things. Holiness will result in authority. Holiness will result in power and holiness will result in love. If you have holiness without love you become judgmental. So the true holiness of God flows with love. The breastplate is a symbol of love. Holiness will produce authority. If you try to exercise authority without holiness that authority is empty. Spiritual authority comes from holiness with the Lord. When you have walked a life that is righteous and holy before God, it results in spiritual authority that will be the crown upon you. And if you walk with God in holiness you will be anointed on the left and on the right. You will carry upon you the bestowal of God's power on your life. If you try to have spiritual power without holiness it is an empty authority. It will not work at all.

The ultimate results of holiness are authority, love and power. All these work together as the climax of the achievement of holiness. The Lord says, "Be holy as I am holy." Holiness is being like onto the nature of God. The beginning of holiness is freedom from sin. But that's only the primary stage. Holiness is not just freedom from sin. Holiness is being like God. Being like God in His love. Being like God in His power. Being like God in His authority. These are the results of holiness. He is not saying that holiness is just freedom from sin. He is asking us to be like Him. He says, "Be holy because I am holy." God's nature is holiness. Holiness is being like God. Its important for us to understand that when we get into God's holiness it is not just something impractical. It's something that would be meaningful onto our life. As somebody once prayed, "God make us intensely spiritual but keep us thoroughly practical." That's the way holiness is. It's something practical that can be applied into our lives.

Lets see in the life of Jesus Christ the pattern for holiness and how we can flow with Him in holiness. Since holiness is being like God, "Be holy for I the Lord your God am holy." "Be holy as I am holy." What is God like? If you want to be like Him, you have to know what He is like. I can't be like somebody whom I don't know. I can't be in the image of somebody whom I do not know. The bible does say something about God. It says God is light and God is love in the epistle of First John.

Holiness produces authority, power and it brings forth love. In your mind you can understand how holiness can produce authority. In your mind you can understand how holiness can produce power.

But how does holiness relate to love? If you see in your life there are some things that are unholy and unrighteous, sin is in your life. Your physical body lives in sin. Your mind is sinful. You have sinful desires. You can't really love somebody. You can't love somebody benevolently. You would be restrained by the selfish sin nature. That is why when you are cleansed from that you can move into righteousness and then you move into holiness, and only then can true love come forth. So true love can only come forth from holiness. Without holiness there is no true love. They are all fleshly, carnal, imitation of love. But there is no true love without holiness.

The reason why the Lord Jesus can love us to the extent of laying down His life is because He is holy. One of the results of holiness is pure undefiled love. Your ability to love another person can only come forth fully, unselfishly and in a benevolent way is when you are holy. If you have selfish desires like wanting something from others, then you get close to them because you are thinking about what you can benefit from them. You become friendly to that person but your motivation is selfishness. Although you seem to make friends with that person yet without holiness no love can come forth. It's all selfish lust. So holiness produces true love. We need to understand holiness and the nature of God involved.

Let me give another definition here. There is a place where God sanctifies you. And there is another place where you sanctify yourself. God sanctifies you and sets you apart. The other part of it is your sanctify yourself.

Jn. 10:36 Do you say of Him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, "You are blaspheming," because I said 'I am the Son of God'? The Son has been set apart and sent into the world.

Then Jesus made this statement in Jn. 17:19 And for their sake I consecrate myself.

See there is a point when God sanctified Jesus and then there is another point when Jesus sanctifies Himself. And the final point is God accepts your sanctification. Let me repeat the 3 points again. There is a point when God sanctifies Jesus. There is a point when Jesus came into this world and all His whole life He sanctifies Himself. There is as point when God accepts the sanctification of Jesus.

And in our lives when you were born again God has set us apart. Believers have been called out of darkness into light. You are called sanctified. But let me assure you that there is the other part where we need to respond to God. God sanctifies us but the other part is we need to sanctify ourselves. What is the picture behind all these? What actually happened when God sanctifies Jesus? The Greek word hargios or sanctify means to be separated for a purpose and a task. That implies destiny; that implies a will; that implies a task; that implies a purpose. And that tell us this that when God sanctifies you or when you are involved in anything that we call sanctity or holiness there must be several revelations.

Firstly you must know your destiny. You can't separate yourself into something that you do not know. When Aaron was separated he knew his destiny. He was destined to be a priest. See he separated himself for a task. So No. 1 there must be a revelation of the will. And many people can not sanctify themselves because they do not know the will of God. But even though you can not sanctify yourself because of your lack of revelation, God has sanctified you and set you apart and He has a will written in heaven for you. He has His will. Even before you were born God has known you. He has chosen you. He has sanctified you before you were born. Sanctification implies the will of God.

And secondly it involves an anointing to do that will. We are examining the life of Jesus. Jesus was sanctified by the Father and sent into the world. Jesus knew His purpose. He knew the will of God. He knew His destiny. That is God's part. He has written it and has given it and Jesus Himself said that He was sanctified by the Father in Jn. 10:36.

Then Jesus said in Jn. 17:19 And for their sake I have consecrated Myself that they also may also be sanctified in the truth. He is talking about how He gave Himself fully to perform the will of God. And in performing the will of God His life will be a blessing to the disciples and so forth to others. With that in mind we see how at the end of it when Jesus sanctified again Himself utterly and fully God accepted Jesus' sanctification. The Father sanctified, the Son sanctified and the Father accepted. And He said let all the angels worship Him. Crown Him with many crowns. Let every knee bow and every tongue confess that He is Lord. The Father accepted the Son's sanctification.

So when God reveals Himself to you He always demands a greater sanctification, a higher realm of holiness. And the reason why people are not sanctifying themselves to God is because the will of God is undiscovered, unknown to them. You can not sanctify yourself unless you know the will of God. Unless you know God's purpose and call for your life then you can sanctify yourself for that task. But far too many people do not know the will of God. You talk about the will of God and they say, "I don't even know the voice of God." And not only do they not know the will of God, not only do they not know the voice of God but they don't even know the Word of God. So how can people sanctify themselves?

Jesus said in Jn. 17 Sanctify them through Thy Word. You may say, "I do not know God's will; I do not know God's voice" but you do have God's Word. You start with God's Word. You start separating yourself through the Word. And you start giving yourself to the Word. And as the Word increases in your life, you will discover His voice. And with that voice comes specific instruction and destiny. Then you discover the specific will of God in your life. So Jesus prayed to God to sanctify His disciples through His Word.

And this aspect of sanctification that we look at how as we sanctify ourselves it is to receive the 3 areas to perform the will of God, authority, power and love. Some people go around with just a linen garment. Some go on to put on the blue ephod. That's not enough. They need to put on the crown. Put on the shoulders ephod, shoulder jewels, and put on the breastplate. Then you are ready for God's work. Too many are just half-dressed spiritually instead of going through all the 4 stages of dressing that Aaron put on.

First Aaron was washed. Then he was clothed with the white linen. Then the blue ephod and the garments were attached to him. And at the fourth stage that we are focusing on is that the Father has sanctified him. There is nothing you need to do about that. Sanctification is past tense but it is also present tense. We are helping you to understand a tremendous bible doctrine. It is past tense because God has already separated you apart. The word church means the called out ones. So God has sanctified us. You need not worry about it. Every believer is sanctified. I Cor. 7 say that if an unbelieving husband or wife is married to a believer, the believing one sanctifies him or her. See all believers are automatically sanctified past tense.

Then there is present tense sanctification and there is future tense sanctification. When Jesus came in the past God has set you free from the penalty of sin. Now in the present you are to be free from the power of sin. And in the future when Jesus comes again you will be free from the presence of sin. There will be no more sin in heaven. Purity and perfection prevail. So are these 3 stages of sanctification. Now the other

sanctification in the future will be completed when Jesus comes again at His Second Coming. The other one is past where Jesus died and sanctified all of us objectively. And whoever believes in Him comes under His Blood and that sanctification that was redeemed for us. That is why when you study the bible it always speaks about sanctification in the past tense, sanctification in the present tense, sanctification in the future tense. That was for your spirit, that was for your body and this is where your soul is getting on.

Jesus sanctified Himself through the will of God. And Jesus sanctified Himself for the purpose of receiving authority, power and love to do the will of God. If you have only one of these 3 you will be incomplete. If you have authority but without love you are a bully. If you have love but you don't have authority you can't help any one. You can only sympathize. And if you have power without authority it is like wild fire and useless. Power needs to be channeled through proper authority. So all these flow together.

The object and purpose of sanctifying yourself is to do the will of God. God may call you to the ministry or He may not. The will of God includes many things. There are many things in the kingdom to do. But God has a specific will for you to do. Your sanctification is to do the will of God. Then your sanctification is for receiving those aspects in fullness.

Jesus sanctified Himself for 30 years before He was anointed. How do we know because when Jesus came out from the waters of baptism the bible says that the heaven opened and the Holy Spirit in a form of a dove came and rested upon Him and there was a voice from heaven that says, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." For 30 years Jesus pleased the Father. For 30 years there was no miracles. There was no healing, nothing but He was pleasing the Father. Pleasing God can mean doing the secret things that nobody sees. When the Messiah was the carpenter in Nazareth the people didn't notice Him. He looked like an ordinary person. When He was 25 they didn't notice Him. When He was 27 He was still the Son of God but He looks like a carpenter. Nobody knew that He was sanctifying Himself.

I am sure being in Nazareth in those times there would be many distractions. The historical record of Josephus, a Jewish historian indicates that the morality of the Roman Empire was terrible in Jesus' time: the corruption and immorality was prevalent. There was even prostitution in the temples.

So Jesus would have to make choices like we do. But for 30 years He sanctified Himself.

What purpose was it for? It was for that crowning. See there should be a purpose in sanctification. Step one, Aaron was washed. Step two he was clothed with the linen. Step three he put on the blue ephod. Step four the pieces of ornaments were placed on him, and step five the anointing oil was placed on him. God accepts sanctification. God has sanctified us but not many have sanctified themselves. We need to learn to sanctify ourselves onto God to receive the 3 things, authority, power and love to flow through our lives.

If you read Eph. 3 there is so much more to the love of God that after a certain point we have no comprehension. It talks about being rooted and grounded in love. It talks

about being established in love. About love, greater things in love, the width, the breath, the depth. Jesus sanctified Himself and those things came on Him.

Heb. 1:8 But of the Son he says, "Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of thy kingdom.

The scepter represents authority. In the Old Testament the king has a scepter. The scepter represents the rod of authority of the king. What kind of rod was it called? It was the scepter of righteousness. Spiritual authority comes through righteousness and holiness.

So in Heb. 1:8 you have the authority given to Jesus. And Jesus came down to this planet earth and said to His disciples, "All authority in heaven and earth is given to Me." So Jesus sanctifies Himself. I want you to understand that the principles that Jesus lived by are the same principles we must live by. You can not have the works of Jesus if you are not willing to live the principles Jesus lived by. Jesus received the works and the anointing by the principles that He had lived by. And for us to receive and do the works of Jesus did and the anointing that He had we had to live by the principles He lived by. And God is no respecter of person. If you choose to live by the same principles Jesus lived by the same works will come upon you. The same crowning will come upon you. So the first thing we see that when the Father accepted the sanctification and the sacrifice of the Son the Father gave Him the scepter of righteousness. Jesus proclaims all authority in heaven and earth is given onto to Me.

Heb 1:9 Thou hast loved righteousness and hated lawlessness. Jesus has the crown on Him. Jesus has the breastplate, love. You have loved righteousness and its love is now made full. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness. It is the pure love that hates sin. In the book of Psalms when David said how he hates with perfect hatred, he is talking about hatred for sin. And Jesus loved righteousness. You remember when the ruler came to Him in Mk. 10 And the ruler said master what must I do to inherit eternal life. Jesus answered keep the commandments thou shall not kill etc. then the young man said I have kept all these things. And Jesus said one thing thou lack. Go and sell all and give to the poor and come and follow me. The young man went sadly away. But there is a phrase that I like you to notice. It says and Jesus loved him.

Jesus love righteousness. Jesus is attracted to righteousness. Why do you think God chose Joseph and Mary? Because the bible says Joseph was a righteous man. Why do you think God called Noah out of a generation of sinners? Because Noah was righteous and found grace in the eyes of God. If you ever want to attract the attention of God, be righteous. It attracts the attention of God when people love holiness. Heaven gives ear when a saint cries, "Lord I want to be holy like you." Love the breastplate of righteousness.

Verse 9 Therefore God, thy God, has anointed thee with the oil of gladness beyond thy comrades. The anointing, power on his shoulders. You have authority, love and power given when sanctification is complete. What Jesus imparts today is the blessing that He received the king of kings and the Lord of Lord.

Let me take a pattern from electricity to symbolize some of the works of holiness. Electrical current can produce 3 things, heat, magnetism and light. All these 3 are symbols of all the 3 aspects that we talked about, authority, power and love.

When an electrical current runs through a wire heat is produced. Heat represents the weight of authority applied to persons and situations.

Electricity also produces the forces of electromagnetism causing things to move. Power results.

Finally light is produced. I Jn. pictured light together with love. God is light and light is love. It tells you that he who hates his brother walks in darkness. So there you have light and love being related. Just for your information light comes from life. Jn. 1 mentioned that in Him was life and the life was the light of man. So the life of God produces light. And that light is the light of the love of God.

Why do I symbolize love with light? Humans do not see love and light as related. But in the spirit world it's related. When God's light shines on you He exposes every thing in you. Yet God does not condemn you for God loves you. Because His light is a loving light, He exposes you and yet He loves you. It's not a light that is condemning. The light of God is the love of God. Sometimes when the anointing is heavy it seems that every one you look at you could know their future. There seems to be a flow of this revelation that comes through. It is a spiritual light that shines.

John G. Lake mentioned about the spiritual light and how it wore off. I prayed to God, "Lord, if I tap into that area don't let it wear off." John G. Lake mentioned that at a certain point the anointing was so heavy in his life that he could just tell precisely that very organ and tissue that was sick and all the details of the person's life.

So I noticed that and I asked the Lord, "Why is that?" And the scriptures came to me "The spiritual man judges all things." There is a judgment that flows when the light of God flows through your life. It is not a condemning light. It's a loving light that goes forth. Your perspective is positive; it's not negative. It is not like some one going about condemning people. It's just like a by-product of your relationship with God. And people who walk closely with God and walking in God's holiness will find the by-product in their life.

When Kathryn Khulman was moving in the anointing she could tell people what God wants them to do in their life. It was because she walked in the light of God. When you walk in the holiness of God, holiness results in authority, power and love. Your crown is put on your head and on your shoulders and on your chest. So you are crowned in those 3 realms.

One of the final discoveries that will come in these last days or when people began to discover the principles of the Spirit, they will realize that the things of the Spirit are systematic and are not in confusion. There are things in the laws of God to tap on. As we learn to tap on them we could harness the different aspects of God's working.

And there are different times that you need different manifestation to come forth. We need to understand how this work of holiness on your life produces a spiritual authority and crowning on your life or produces a power into your life, a greater anointing. Or produces a greater manner of love in your life. I am not talking about the love that you have when you are saved.

You can not separate heat from electricity or magnetism or light. You can not separate the three. Wherever they go the 3 forces always flow together. In the same way you can not separate the 3 results of holiness. They always flow together. We need to understand how to flow with the 3 results of holiness.

In the natural man has understood electrical laws to a certain extend. When Thomas Edison invented the first light bulb he experimented with thousand of materials to get the right filament. And it did not last very long. The early light bulb lasted just a few hours. But as man began to grow and increase in knowledge, man learnt to tap on electricity so that they could make electricity produce light more than heat.

In the realm of holiness people can tap on different principles as they learn to flow with the things of God. Sometimes men of God have tapped on one area but not the other. They produced a lot of light but not much magnetism and heat. But what God wants us to produce is the authority, power and love to flow in equal portion to your life. Some people have grown in the spiritual realm but you know what they do. They put on a huge breastplate. But they are without their crown. So they discovered one aspect of holiness. Other has discovered another aspect of holiness and they put on huge power. They are lopsided. But on Aaron it is perfect. Every thing fitted perfectly: the breastplate, the shoulder blade and the crown. They fitted perfectly.

For example when I confront a demon case I want to exercise authority. We are not supposed to show love to demons. I want the authority of God to flow out. We need to learn in that realm. When the demons saw Jesus. Do you know what strike the demons most? What were the words the demon cried out when they saw Him? The demon said in Mk. 1 Thou Holy One of God. What impress the demons? Holiness. Holiness produces spiritual authority. That is why if your life is unholy, you are not sanctified to a purpose and to a task. You will have no spiritual authority over demon power. It is holiness that strikes them most.

Do know what all demons try to do? They always try to get you to get into sin. What is their objective? A Christian potentially has the authority of Jesus Christ, but when a Christian sins, he or she actually surrenders the spiritual authority he or she has. And you will be ineffective against the kingdom of darkness.

So we have to value holiness, preserve it and let it grow into your life in all those levels continually. So we understand holiness and power. You can see holiness and anointing in the life of Jesus. When Jesus sanctified Himself the anointing came upon Him. Thou have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness. Therefore thy God has anointed you. (Heb 1:9) He was anointed when He was on this earth and He was anointed up there and crowned King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The anointing came after holiness and not before.

People think the power produces holiness. It does not, its holiness that produces power. People think that operating spiritual gifts will make them holy. It will not but holiness will help you to operate the spiritual gifts better and more powerfully. And that's how love helps you to operate the spiritual gifts better. When they have love their gifts will be more powerful operating in their life.

The 3 results of holiness can not be understated. Love all that should help you to live a holy life. See the basic fact about this life is that when you become like God every

thing you do comes out of a heart of love. Whenever you are not sure of some thing you always flow with the most loving area. You always flow in a channel where love is most. If you have to make choices, the choice that God will always be pleased with is the choice that is filled with God's love. If you are not sure of God's will in an area always flow with the most loving act possible. And you find that when you find love God is there. For God is love. Walking in love is walking in light. They flow together.

And the crown is the result of holiness. Every man of God will have to pass the test of sanctification before the crowning comes. Joseph went through this test. When Pharaoh promoted him he received the signet ring, which symbolized authority. And he received the garment, which symbolized anointing. And he had a change of heart towards his brothers. Now he has authority for he is the right hand man of Pharaoh. When he saw his brothers he could have ordered them killed. But he forgave them. Do you know he is a different Joseph? The old Joseph in Genesis 37 was the Joseph that didn't tell good things about his brothers. That was what brought him into trouble in the first place. But the new Joseph that was crowned by Pharaoh was a changed person. He had learned authority by now. He learned holiness; remember he was tempted by Potiphar's wife to sin. Nobody was there but God was there.

God will give you choices. There will be opportunities to choose. And if you keep making the right choice to sanctify and live a holy life, you will meet God somewhere along the line. But you know why people don't meet God? It is because they don't make the right choices. Many a Potiphar's wife is tempting people. And many in their secret chambers are falling for it.

If you want to see God there is a simple principle. Without holiness no man can see the Lord. Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. The path that leads to God is the path that you keep choosing holiness. And I am helping you to choose holiness. See holiness is also love. You keep walking in love and you keep on making choices. There will be many choices that come in your life.

Businessman you will have a choice to go the wrong way or the right way. If you choose the right way blessed are you for God is one day going to crown you. Minister of God you have choices. Man and woman, Christians, soldiers of God you have choices. God gives you the freedom to choose. But God wants to see those who choose Him and choose holiness. I just bring forth the rewards of holiness to you so that you can be encouraged to choose holiness. Sometimes when we see and understand the rewards and the consequences, you are motivated to choose the right choices. If you want more spiritual power in your life and authority you know what to do now, holiness. If you want more love flowing through your life you know what to do now, holiness. You want to increase the anointing of God in your life. You know what to do now, holiness.

God has always never at any time failed to reward those who choose holiness. Always at some point in their life God crowns them. I am not talking about the crown in heaven, which we will have. But right now on this earth God attaches upon you the breastplate. He attaches upon you the shoulder blade. And He attaches upon you the crown on your forehead. If our Lord Jesus Christ had to sanctify Himself how much more must the bride of Christ sanctify herself? If Jesus had to pay the price before the anointing came on Him, how much more must we who are lesser than Him?