

Holy unto the Lord
(Exodus 39; 40: 34-38; I Cor. 6:16-19; II Cor. 6:16)

The ministry of Moses in the wilderness was one of sanctifying the people to present them holy to the Lord (Exodus 19:10-11). In the experience of Mount Sinai when YAHWEH descended to the Mount to meet with the people, they experienced the unapproachable holiness of YAHWEH. Desiring fellowship with men YAHWEH formed the nation of Israel to be that vehicle through which the nations would realize the existence of the true and holy YAHWEH. Forty years in the desert, a frame of time seemly long, but not in the mind of YAHWEH, it took for the nation of Israel to be set apart and consecrated holy unto Him. Although they never achieved the position of complete holiness, they came to experience the extent of YAHWEH'S holiness when they trembling with fear, and falling back at the holiness of YAHWEH, said, You (Moses) speak to us and we will listen, but let not YAHWEH speak to us, lest we die (Exodus 20:18-19).

The Bride of CHRIST has never experienced such extent of His holiness otherwise we would have a different approach to sin. The ministry of the Son of YAHWEH of redemption was completed and fulfilled and satisfied by His Father once and for all; there is now no more sacrifice left to atone for sins, but a divine judgment (Hebrews 10:27). Living in the flesh, or to satisfy its sinful desires, defeats the purpose for which YAHSHUA died on the cross; His work will be as if it was unfinished, and the promised HOLY SPIRIT'S ministry as if non-existent. Like Israel in the desert, the bride of CHRIST is left here for as long as YAHWEH'S determined purpose would be accomplished for her life. Before YAHSHUA went to heaven He told the disciple that it was necessary that He would leave, so that the HOLY SPIRIT would come to do the work of sanctification to present His Bride holy unto Him.

If we took time to ponder on the meaning of the word holy, we would find ourselves non deserving of YAHWEH'S love and holiness and unable to come close to Him, and we would rely more on the HOLY SPIRIT to guide us to His holiness in repentance and surrendering of our sinful and fleshy desires; we would renounce sins and cry with Paul, Miserable man that I am! But as it is, we stand far from Him and aloof of the extent of how holy His holiness is. Moses could only guide the people to do what was right; they had to do their part, too. Even though it was none of his fault that Israel had chosen the path to forsake the LORD their Elohim and go after the Egyptian god, he interceded for them saying, Oh, these people have sinned a great sin and have made themselves gods of gold! Yet now, if You will forgive their sin- and if not, blot me, I pray You out of Your book which You have written! Moses, as a go in between, offered to take the punishment of the people, so that they would not have to suffer the consequences of their doing. This is a true picture of what was to come in the Son of YAHWEH, when He took yours and my place on the cross. Even though Moses' ministry was not that of a substitutional ministry, He was a prototype of what was to come in the person of the HOLY SPIRIT. Until his death, he led the people in the direction YAHWEH had shown him – the direction to YAHWEH'S holiness.

After the work of regeneration we must go through the desert with the HOLY SPIRIT sanctifying us until we reach the Promised Land, our home. The same way we have accepted YAHSHUA'S sacrifice, we must accept His Spirit to do the continuous work of sanctification in order for us to be presented to YAHWEH holy as He is holy; otherwise we will continue lost in our ways and separated from YAHWEH for eternity! Remember the words Paul said, And He (YAHSHUA) died for all, so that all those who live might live no longer to and for themselves, but to and for Him Who died (YAHSHUA) and was raised again for their sake (II Cor. 5:15); and But the person who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him; do you not know that your body is the temple of the HOLY SPIRIT Who lives within you, Whom you have received from YAHWEH? You are not of your own; you are bought with a price, to then, honor YAHWEH and bring glory to Him in your body (I Cor. 6:17, 19). Born anew to the ever-living hope reserved in heaven where our Savior is preparing us a place- our promised inheritance is beyond the reach of decay, unsullied and unfading. This ever-living hope is set wholly on the grace which is His divine favor given us to live a victorious life in obedience and holiness, conforming the soul to His holiness in all manner of behavior, shining His love with reverence throughout the time of our temporary residence on this earth, by girding the mind against sin until the finality of things comes and our final salvation is revealed to us;

Holy unto the LORD, is the goal of His HOLY SPIRIT for each of us, called His Bride. Being cleansed by the blood of YAHSHUA, we are purified by His Spirit, Who will present His Bride in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing (Ephesians 5: 27); and unveiled from all the things that once blinded us, controlling by the HOLY SPIRIT, we continue to behold as in the mirror, the glory of the LORD, constantly being transfigured into His very one image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another (II Cor. 3:18)! As we ponder the end of all things- the end of this age when YAHWEH in His holiness, will express His wrath against the evil and the wickedness of men, causing the heavens to vanish with a thunderous crash, and the elements to be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it to be burned up- since all these things are in the process of being dissolved, the question is raised: what kind of person ought [each of us] be (II Peter 3:10-12)? "Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe" yes, we do only in the spirit of obedience to the guidance of His SPIRIT, we can say, But we look for new heavens and a new earth according to His promise, in which righteousness is to abide (vs.13). The righteousness of the sanctified person will have an entrance to eternity where holiness shines the radiance of its purity and beauty echoing love, peace, perfect love and perfect peace! Holy unto the LORD is a sacrifice of submission worthy going through. **NOT I, BUT CHRIST!** Yes, leaving all behind, be it family, friends, material things, fleshly desires, I pursue the holiness of my Bridegroom!

THINK ABOUT IT!