



## Kingdom Center - JUSTIN HERNANDEZ

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### *Jehovah Mekoddishkem ( The Lord Who Sanctifies )*

- I. The book of Leviticus is like God's "no trespassing" sign
  - A. This is the book where we clearly see God calls his people to be set apart from the rest. In it, he implores them to a life of sanctification
    1. A life of sanctification is one where we do not allow the world's viewpoints and ways, to trespass on our minds, bodies, or spirits.
      - With much treasure about living a life in holiness before God, many consider the book of Leviticus one of the most important books in the Bible.
- II. Delivered For Destiny
  - A. At the close of Exodus, the people of Israel have exited Egypt. God's people have been delivered from bondage and set on the path to their destiny. They are on their way to the Promised Land, which they eventually reach in the book of Numbers.
    1. In the middle of the book of Exodus and the book of Numbers is the unique book of Leviticus often referred to as "the book of life"
      - In Exodus we discover why God delivered his people— so that they might worship him.
        - Exodus 5:1
      - The book of Leviticus gives precepts and principles about how followers of God are to fellowship with Him in intimacy.
        - Through this abiding relationship with God, each of us can experience the abundant life Jesus promises in John 10:10
        - John 10:10
    2. God did not deliver the Israelites from bondage in Egypt just so they could be in bondage in Canaan.
      - He delivered them, so they could live out His destiny for them.
        - Likewise, God has a plan for each of us.
      - We will realize this plan for our lives to its highest degree, only when we align our lives in proper connection to Him.
        - That requires an understanding of and separation to His holiness through the process of sanctification.



- When our lives are sanctified, we best reflect the image of God, in whom we have been created.
- 3. This is one reason God delivered the Israelites from bondage in Egypt, and it is a reason why he delivers us from bondage of sin today.
  - He does this through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ- to sanctify us, so that in our intimacy with Him, He can “show through” us to others.

### III. The Common, the Profane, and the Sacred

- A. Throughout Leviticus, God is getting His children ready for their destiny by instructing them on how to worship and walk with Him once they get there.
  - 1. God knows that their success in the Promised Land will depend on their relationship with Him
- B. Three words will Help us grasp the significance and meaning of this book
  - Common, Profane, and Sacred
    - All things, actions, and people fall into one of these three categories
  - 1. That which is common, God has created as regular or ordinary
  - 2. That which is profane includes those things that are polluted, defiled, or contaminated.
  - 3. That which is sacred is special to God and reflects His glory.
- C. Things that are common (or ordinary, or regular) remain common until you make them either profane or sacred.
  - 1. 1 Timothy 4:4-5
    - Consider another example in Genesis 2:3
      - Sanctifying the seventh day did not mean the other six were bad! In fact, He had already called them good. It just means they weren't sanctified days.
      - God set apart the seventh day to make it Holy. That day was special because God did something special on that day.

### IV. The God who Sanctifies

- A. This name appears in the the book of Leviticus as part of God's instructions on how we are to maximize our fellowship with Him and fulfill the destinies to which we are called.
  - 1. Leviticus 20:7-8
    - This is another compound name of God. It combines a name we have already looked at in Jehovah, with the name Mekoddishkem.
      - Often it is condensed to Jehovah M'kaddesh.
    - The word Kaddesh (“to sanctify”) appears hundreds of times in the Bible



- But this compound name in connection with Jehovah only happens twice, here and Exodus 31:13
  - Exodus 31:13
- 2. This name takes us beyond our mere existence or the motions of life. Jehovah Mekoddishkem is a life-giving name.
  - God goes into a lot of detail throughout scripture concerning our need to be sanctified.
    - He reminds the Israelites that He is the God that brought them out of slavery, out of Egypt, and that He did this for a purpose.
  - He did this to reveal Jehovah Mekoddishkem to them; He did this to sanctify them.
    - He did this then just as now He seeks to sanctify you and me today through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- 3. The name Jehovah Mekoddishkem is a little different from the other names we have studied
  - This name of God infuses power into our lives when we receive by faith everything he seeks to do in and through us.
    - It signifies the action done to us - God's action of Sanctifying us
  - Leviticus gives us some reasons why we are to be sanctified by Him.
    - Leviticus 20:22-26
  - God knew that the Israelites were headed into a land of plenty- a land of temptation.
    - These people wouldn't be living to God's standards.
  - God knew that when His people reached their destiny, they would be surrounded by people who thought differently, looked different, walked differently, talked differently, believed differently, and lived according to their own agenda.
    - God did not want their standards to become His people standards once they arrived in the Promise Land.
  - His covenantal covering depended on their relationship with Him
- 4. In order to retain His covenantal protection and provision, they were to maintain their uniqueness- their Holiness- before Him.
  - He said that when they did that, He would indeed drive out their enemies from the land.



- Yet if they joined their enemies and became like them, they would be defeated.

B. Sanctification is the process of God setting us apart from sin and unrighteousness and setting us to His person and His purposes.

1. What does it mean to be sanctified and how do we become sanctified?

- The term “sanctify” and its various forms are often used in both testaments.
  - It means to “to set apart, to separate” Holy, consecrated, and sacred
- Something becomes sanctified when it’s set apart from the common, ordinary, regular, things of life.
  - It transfers from the realm of ordinary to the realm of the sacred.

2. All through the Bible, God sets apart His holy things and people.

- He begins to the Ten Commandments by reminding the Israelites who He is and who is giving the command.
  - Exodus 20:2-3
- We are commanded to set God apart from all else. He is to be sanctified and treated as the unique person that He is.

V. Sanctification begins within

A. In 1 Thessalonians 5:23, we discover a method God uses to encourage the sanctification process in us.

1. When God says He wants to sanctify us entirely, that’s another way of saying we need to be totally transformed.

- It’s the process of spiritual growth by which God progressively makes us more like Jesus Christ.
- God transforms us from the inside out. Notice the order of transformation in this verse.
- This order is important to understand because it helps us realize that outward performance alone will never get us where God wants us to be.
  - The body, representing our outward actions, comes last in the order of transformation.
- For example, the problem of a thief is not, is not his hands. The problem is his mind or spirit, which is telling him that stealing is fine.
  - Transform the spirit and the hand will follow.

2. Too many Christians want to access God’s power over sins or bad habits in their lives, without truly being transformed within.



- God starts with our spirit because it is part of our being united with His spirit in us.
  - It is not holiness through externalism, but rather holiness stems from within and effects the external.
  - 1 John 2:15
- When God tells us not to love the world, He is not sentencing us to a life of boredom.
  - We lose the manifestation of God's sanctifying work in us.

B. To experience the fullness of God's sanctifying power within, we need to consecrate ourselves to Him.

1. Leviticus 20:7-8

- God doesn't sanctify us until we consecrate ourselves to Him.
  - The effect of His sanctifying work is directly tied to the depth of your consecration.

2. Hebrews 10:10

- Our sanctification has been completely bought and paid for.
  - Until you consecrate your life to Him, Jehovah Mekoddishkem will remain just another name to you.
- When you consecrate yourself, you will begin to experience this name
  - You'll begin to lose the desire for the world's way of doing things, and you'll align more of your life with God Himself.
- When you choose to consecrate your life to God, God Himself will remove the desire for the world in you.
  - In its place you will find desire for Him and His agenda

## VI. Counting the Cost of Consecration

A. Peter tells us we are to consecrate ourselves to God— 1 Peter 3:15

1. This is first and foremost an internal decision to align our thoughts and mind with the truth of God.
  - This is a decision to change how you view your life, the way you roll.
  - Paul gives us a visual illustration of what it means to sanctify God in our hearts.
    - Romans 12:1-2
  - In order to see God's manifest power on earth, you must do more than decide to become Christian by trusting Jesus for your salvation.
  - The difference between a decision maker and a sanctified follower of Christ is simply consecration.



2. Paul is telling us in this passage that God wants us to present ourselves to Him.
  - Too many believers have put a portion of their time, talents, and treasures on God's altar and assumed its good enough.
    - Throughout scripture we read that anytime God wanted to do something big for his people, He always required a sacrifice first, a demonstration of consecration and commitment.
  - True worship, according to Romans 12, is giving yourself to God in your entirety.
  - We are able to be alive to God and His desires and be simultaneously dead to our sinful nature and own will.
    - In this we are consecrated to Him and therefore sanctified by Him, our Jehovah Mekoddishkem.