## **Chosen for Glory and Holiness**

Shalom

He chose us in the Messiah before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before Him in love. He predestined us for adoption as sons through Messiah Yeshua, in keeping with the good pleasure of His will—to the glorious praise of His grace, with which He favored us through the One He loves! (Ephesians 1:4-6 TLV)

Acharei Mot, "After the Death" and Kedoshim, "Holy People," are the two Torah portions we are studying this week. They are found in Leviticus 16:1—20:27 and, by these readings, we gain insight by what God specifies to enable us to enter His presence and glory. We cannot exist in His glorious presence without becoming a new creation through being born again. God, Who is love, made a way for us to come to Him by clothing us with a completely new nature in the Messiah Yeshua. All the priestly garments, the ordinances, and the detailed requirements of the Law of Sin and Death in the Torah were given to show us, from a natural perspective, the true spiritual principles of entering God's presence and the holiness that would mark those set apart, not just as holy people, but as His dwelling place, the eternal temple of the Living God. This elaborate and detailed covenant given through Moses was not the original plan and purpose of God. It was given as a shadow to give understanding of greater things to come, which really were in place before the foundation of the World.

Adonai said to Moses, "Tell Aaron your brother not to come at just any time into the Holiest Place behind the curtain—before the atonement cover which is on the Ark—so that he would not die. For I will be appearing in the cloud over the atonement cover." (Leviticus 16:2 TLV)

Adonai spoke to Moses saying: "Speak to all the congregation of Bnei-Yisrael and tell them: 'You shall be kedoshim, for I, Adonai your God, am holy.'" (Leviticus 19:1-2 TLV)

That older covenant revealed to Moses only provided a temporary way for YHWH to dwell among the people, but He has provided the new and living way for us to experience His mighty presence within us, eternally uniting us with God and His glory. It is not natural. It is supernatural!

Now a natural man does not accept the things of the Ruach Elohim, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. (1 Corinthians 2:14 TLV)

To whom God was pleased to make known how great for the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ within and among you, the Hope of [realizing the] glory. (Colossians 1:27 AMPC)

No, you, in your flesh and natural understanding, can never be Holy in the same way YHWH is holy, but **God** knew that before the foundation of the world and **provided a** way into the Holy of Holies that you may not only approach, but also enter boldly into.

Therefore if anyone is in Messiah, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. (2 Corinthians 5:17 TLV)

When we hear God say, "Be holy just as I am holy," hearing it only with our natural ears and understanding, we are always prone to become legalistic about the quantity and quality of our works, or we become obsessed with what we are doing. On the other hand, when we hear those words as a New Creation in Messiah, there is an immediate knowing that we are made holy as He is holy, because we are in Him, and He is in us.

"Make them holy in the truth. Your Word is truth. Just as You sent Me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I make Myself holy, so that they also may be made holy in truth." (John 17:17-19 TLV)

The glory that You have given to Me I have given to them, that they may be one just as We are one— I in them and You in Me—that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me and loved them as You loved Me. (John 17:22-23 TLV)

Can you see that, as one who is a new creation, we no longer strive to be holy? We rather press nearer and abide in Him Who is true holiness and show forth the same holiness by the Spirit of God that anoints us in His likeness and image. The spirit man knows this and always abides in Messiah. We are equipped by our anointed spirits to take dominion in the earth, and that includes bringing our soulish, natural man into submission to the holiness and will of God. Every word and command of God is to bless us. But that can only happen when we submit to His plans and purposes through Jesus the Messiah. When we yield to, and trust, Him He equips us by His Spirit within us to be holy, just as He is holy.

Abiding in His holiness, Terry

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