

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Holiness In War January 12, 2021 Suzi Armstrong

Leviticus 11.44-45 NASB

⁴⁴ **For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. And you shall not make yourselves unclean with any of the swarming things that swarm on the earth.** ⁴⁵ **For I am the LORD who brought you up from the land of Egypt to be your God; thus you shall be holy, for I am holy.”**

From the Dictionary of Biblical Imagery:

*Holiness is a fundamental characteristic of God Himself. It is who He is – HOLY. His holiness is proclaimed by the angels and all of the earth. **Holiness means set apart; God is set apart from all else. He is the Creator of all so is not included in those things that have been created but He is the originator of all creation – set apart from every created thing.** The holiness of God is experienced as sheer force. The holiness of God permeates His being and is the fiber of His presence. The unholy or the profane cannot be in the presence of Holy God. God declares in His word that He will have a holy people set apart for Himself. We are made holy in Christ. We honor God as holy in worship.*

- This is KEY to understand. God is the Creator of all – He is NOT PART OF CREATION, but He is OVER ALL CREATION. He is set apart.
- Why is this important? Nothing in creation has a hold on God – who He is or what He does. Creation does not influence God, but God influences creation. It is a one-way street.
- Holiness in war is depicted in Joshua when the Angel of the Lord appears and Joshua says are you on their side or our side? And the Angel says, neither, I have come as Captain of the army of the Lord. And He tells Joshua to take off his shoes because the ground he is standing on is holy.
 - Prophetically this says, Joshua you are now standing on holy ground – ground that is not influenced by the ways of man or the devil and their agendas. Align with Me says the Lord and bring heaven into the earth. Do this separated from the earth and the things of the earth.
 - From this place we war with the King of Glory – separated or set apart.

From Francis Frangipane:

Since true holiness produces in us the actual life of the Holy Spirit, we must be sure we know who the Spirit is. The Spirit of God is holiness, not religion. God is life, not rituals. The Spirit comes to lead us into the actual presence of Jesus. Herein is our holiness made real: in our union and fellowship with Christ.

Holy is defined as:

- To consecrate, sanctify, prepare, dedicate, be separate.
- This is not a work of the flesh but the work of the Holy Spirit in us. Holy Spirit leads us into increasing holiness. Humbling yourself before God positions us to be made holy as He is holy.
- The government of God is holy. In the natural government we see all kinds of dynamics that are not holy – this is not how the government of God works. Again, God’s government is holy or set apart.

To be holy (separated from the world to God) as He is holy is not about us performing or siding with a philosophy or cause, but **allowing ourselves to conform to the holy incorruptible seed within us – Christ the hope of glory.**

- The 1st heaven is atmosphere around us as we live on the earth.
- The 2nd heaven is where spiritual conflict takes place. We are seated with Christ far above powers and principalities; above satan and his domain of darkness. The 2nd heaven is the demonic headquarters that is strategically setup to control people, institutions, governments and nations. Satan, the god of this world, connects to people and controls them like puppets on strings.
- We must war from the 3rd heaven. The 3rd heaven is the place of God's throne room. And where God's angels, the elders and the creatures worship Him. The Bible reveals to us that their primary way of worship is to call out that He is holy.
- We, as sons and daughters of our Holy God, have been given the ability to connect heaven to earth. When we declare Your kingdom come and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven we are literally connecting the 3rd heaven into the current atmosphere. We are bringing in the rule and reign of Christ – God's holy government which overtakes, breaks apart making null and void what satan has done. This is what we do as the ekklesia, the legislative expression of God in the earth. The atmosphere we carry, the government we carry, affects the land we walk on. When God spoke to Joshua and said, "Everywhere the sole of your foot treads, I have given you." What this means is everywhere you are willing to take up arms and defend is yours.
- The holiness of God is essential in a nation being a sheep nation or a nation that chooses to trust in God. Why is it essential? Because the unholy cannot survive in an atmosphere where there is holiness. What does that look like? It looks like a place where satan and his control mechanisms no longer oppress the people. In this way, holiness is a weapon because what is unholy cannot survive.

1 Peter 1.13-16 NASB

¹³ Therefore, **prepare your minds for action**, keep sober *in spirit*, **fix your hope completely on the grace** to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance, ¹⁵ but **like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior;** ¹⁶ because it is written, **"YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."**

2 Corinthians 3.5-6 NASB

⁵ Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as *coming* from ourselves, but **our adequacy is from God,** ⁶ who also made us adequate *as* servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Prayer over our nation:

We decree the rule and reign of God's kingdom is being released in our nation, especially in the civil government of our nation. We decree that falsehoods will no longer be allowed to masquerade as facts. Truth will guide our nation. Jesus has destroyed the authority of chaos and is now crushing it under our feet! Chaos will not rule our cities! We release the peace of God into our cities – the peace that passes all understanding. Peace that brings order to chaos. No weapon formed to take our nation down will prosper but every tongue that rises up in false accusation will be refuted and silenced by the clarity of truth. Satan and his cohorts' grip on our nation will be destroyed. Righteousness and justice will prevail. We proclaim freedom and liberty throughout all the land and to the inhabitants of this great nation – the United States of America! **We decree that the purposes of God for America WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED!**