

Holiness is Unpopular, But... You Shall be Holy for I, Adonai Your Elohim, Am Holy.

“¹³So brace your minds for action. Keep your balance. And set your hope completely on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Yeshua the Messiah. ¹⁴Like obedient children, do not be shaped by the cravings you had formerly in your ignorance. ¹⁵Instead, just like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in everything you do. ¹⁶For it is written, “You Shall be Holy (Kedoshim), for I am holy (kadosh)” (1 Peter 1:13-16).

On March 2, 2020, in a message entitled *We Have Been Called to a Greater Level of Holiness and Obedience* I asked the question: *“How far have we (our society) fallen from the morality of Adonai? Verily He would have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah if He does not judge us (Matt. 10:15; Romans 9:29; 2 Peter 2:6, Jude 1:7) ... I added: we have been given explicit instructions about living in a greater level of holiness and obedience.”* The Apostle Peter said: *“¹⁸ You know that you were redeemed from the futile way of life handed down from your ancestors.”* In our society it is obvious that *Yeshua’s* admonition *“He who has ears, let him hear!” (Matt. 11:15, Mk. 4:9,23)* is in effect. When asked by His disciples why He was speaking to the crowds in parables, *Yeshua* refers to *Isaiah 6:1-13*, which speaks of people who have eyes and ears, yet who have hardened their hearts and chosen to ignore the *Word of Adonai (Matthew 13:10-15; cf. Isaiah 6:8-10)*. Part of the judgment on those who refuse to believe is that they will eventually lose their opportunity to believe (*Matthew 13:12; cf. Romans 1:18-32*). A similar phrase is found in Revelation in each of the seven letters to the Messianic Congregations: *“Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to Messiah’s communities” (Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22)*. And in *Revelation 13:9*, immediately following a description of the Antichrist, we read, *“Whoever has ears, let them hear.”* We know that the word to hear comes from the Hebrew, *sh’ma*, which means to prove that we heard by doing what was said (spoken), that is, to obey.

The Lord has been speaking to me (actually I have been disquieted in my spirit for weeks as it keeps being brought up again, and again...) about our Congregation’s holiness practice, or lack thereof. The Hebrew Word translated holy in Scripture is the word *kadosh* (קודש) and it means to sanctify (to set apart for sacred use), to consecrate (to declare as sacred), to declare holy (divine), to purify, and to cleanse. We are called to be separate from society and culture when it comes to the *Things* and the *Word of Adonai*. We are instructed to: *“put on the Lord Messiah Yeshua, and stop making provision for the flesh—for its cravings” (Romans 13:14)*. {BTW, I like how the KJV version translates the verse: *“and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof”*}. Part of being holy and separate is to make no provision for the flesh because we know (maybe you do not know) that Satan exercises power through evil things (mediums, horoscopes, tarot cards, objects, artifacts, toys, games, books, art, bad music, foreign (and sometimes occult) souvenirs, pictures, Halloween costumes and paraphernalia, TV shows and movies, etc.) The Ephesian believers got rid of occult books, and items, and burned them in a heap before everyone and then the *Word of the Lord* grew in/with power prevailing among them (*Acts 19:19-20*). What makes us think that we are exempted from such things? Since God’s Word is hindered by evil things and objects, should we not strive to get rid of them? There is only one Scriptural way to deal with these and that is to burn them (*Deut. 7:25-26*).

Here are some examples of documented cases and testimonies by Believers where action taken was followed by victory and freedom.

- A believing young woman would sense an *evil presence* when reading the Bible. The question was asked if she was dating or had been in a relationship with an ungodly young man. She said yes. The questioning continued: Did he give you gifts? Yes. Then get rid of them. She did and immediately she experienced freedom. Months later, there was another occasion where she felt the *evil presence*, so she looked further and found a ring he had given her and that she had overlooked. As soon as she disposed of it, her freedom/peace returned to her life.

- A man had brought back a ritual mask from a trip to the islands and placed it in his home office. Soon afterwards, he started feeling sickness, marriage pressures, and lots of irritations at home. He moved some items from his home office to his business office (including the ritual mask) and started having severe business problems and began losing money. After asking Holy Spirit about it he noticed the mask. He burned it and all these problems were gone almost instantly. The mask was actually a voodoo mask used in voodoo rituals!
- Two elderly women had a sister that was insane, and they took care of her. After they had cleansed the home of many art objects, pictures, books, etc., the sister suddenly snapped out of her insanity.
- My son Ian and the Chuck Norris doll... Ian and the Cabbage Patch dolls... {Rebbetzin will share}

What makes us think that we can live a successful Messianic Life if we continue to eat those things *Adonai* did not call food? What makes us think that we can read the vilest literature, or watch the most sensual or horrific TV and movies, get on the Disney and other occult themed movie bandwagon (anything with magic, witches, warlocks, half-human/half-beast characters, horrific events, bloodshed, carnage, Harry Potter, etc.), and play the modern evil-based computer games and, as a minimum, not have our intimacy with *Adonai* suffer? Isn't it time to get rid of bad/destructive habits in our lives? We want *Adonai* to begin the revival here in our congregation. Why not us, we say? If so, are we ready to do a deep house cleaning and get rid of the *chametz* (even if just crumbs) in our houses, both natural and spiritual as we approach Passover?

Ask Holy Spirit to show you areas where He cannot enter because they are contaminated whether in your body which is His Temple or in your homes, office, cars, or jurisdiction. He will show you like He did Marilyn when it came to my son's karate doll. Are you hiding anything that is not Godly in nature that if you are honest with yourself, you know hinders you from the awesome relationship with *Adonai* you want and should have? Mr. Clean is here! *Shabbat Shalom!*