

Jehovah Mekoddishkem / M'kaddesh – The Lord who Sanctifies!

“But as for you, speak to the sons of Israel, saying, **‘You shall surely observe My sabbaths; for this is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you.** ¹⁴ Therefore you are to **observe the sabbath, for it is holy to you.** Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people. ¹⁵ For six days work may be done, **but on the seventh day there is a sabbath of complete rest, holy to the LORD;** whoever does any work on the sabbath day shall surely be put to death. ¹⁶ So the sons of Israel shall observe the sabbath, to celebrate the sabbath throughout their generations as a **perpetual covenant.’** ¹⁷ **It is a sign between Me and the sons of Israel forever;** for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, but on the seventh day He ceased from labor, and was refreshed.” (Exodus 31:13-17)

- “As for **the person who turns to mediums and to spiritists, to play the harlot after them**, I will also set My face against that person and will cut him off from among his people. ⁷ **You shall consecrate yourselves therefore and be holy, for I am the LORD your God.** ⁸ You shall keep My statutes and practice them; **I am the LORD who sanctifies**” (Leviticus 20:6-8)

- “Therefore say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, **“It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you went.** ²³ **I will vindicate the holiness of My great name** which has been profaned among the nations,...²⁵ **Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.** ²⁶ **Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.** ²⁷ **I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.** ²⁸ You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; **so you will be My people, and I will be your God.** ²⁹ **Moreover, I will save you from all your uncleanness;...”** (Ezekiel 36:22-30)

I) Sabbath according to the OT!

- **Sabbath in Hebrew is *shavat***, “to rest,” just as God rested after six days of work in completing creation. Sabbath was commonly for “rest and worship.”
- **Sabbath according to (Exodus 31:13-17)!** i) “**You shall surely observe My sabbaths**” v. 13, “So the sons of Israel shall observe the sabbath, to celebrate the sabbath throughout their generations” ii) **As a perpetual covenant** v. 16, iii) For six days work may be done, **but on the seventh day there is a sabbath of complete rest, holy to the LORD**” v. 15, iv) **Is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations**” v. 13, “**It is a sign between Me and the sons of Israel forever**” v. 17. v) that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you. v. 13.
- **Sabbath according to Isaiah 58:13!** “If because of the sabbath, **you turn your foot From doing your own pleasure** on My holy day, **And call the sabbath a delight, the holy day of the LORD honorable**, And honor it, **desisting from your own ways, From seeking your own pleasure** And speaking your own word” (Isaiah 58:13)

II) Sabbath Rest in Christ according to the NT!

- **Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath!** “For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.” (Matthew 12:8), “So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath” (Mark 2:28; Luke 6:5)
- **Coming to Jesus is to find our Sabbath rest!** “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. ³⁰ For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30)
- **Being at peace and having a reconciled relationship with God!** “and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.” (Colossians 1:20) Ref: 2 Corinthians 5:17-18

III) Sabbath Rest in the Book of Hebrews!

- Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, **“TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,⁸ DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME, AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS,⁹ WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED Me BY TESTING Me, AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS.¹⁰ “THEREFORE I WAS ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION, AND SAID, ‘THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART, AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS’;¹¹ AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, ‘THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.’”** (Hebrews 3:7-11)
- **“Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.¹³ But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called “Today,” so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.** (Hebrews 3:12-13)

□ “For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end, ¹⁵ while it is said, “TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME.” ¹⁶ For who provoked Him when they had heard? Indeed, did not all those who came out of Egypt led by Moses? ¹⁷ And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ **And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient?** ¹⁹ **So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.”** (Hebrews 3:14-19)

□ Therefore, **let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest,** any one of you may seem to have come short of it. ² For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but **the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard.** ³ **For we who have believed enter that rest,** just as He has said, “AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST,” although His works were finished from the foundation of the world. ⁴ For He has said somewhere concerning the seventh day: “AND GOD RESTED ON THE SEVENTH DAY FROM ALL HIS WORKS”; ⁵ and again in this passage, **“THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.”** ⁶ (Hebrews 4:1-5)

- ⁶ Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and **those who formerly had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience,** ⁷ He again fixes a certain day, “Today,” saying through David after so long a time just as has been said before, “**TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS.**” ⁸ For if Joshua had given them rest, He would not have spoken of another day after that. ⁹ **So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.** ¹⁰ For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His. ¹¹ Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience. (Hebrews 4:6-11)

IV) Jesus is our Lord who Sanctifies (Jehovah Mekoddishkem)!

- **By daily hearing the voice of the Spirit (to renounce any “hardened heart”, “unbelieving heart, “disobedience”) and diligently entering His rest!** “Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, **“TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME,...”** (Hebrews 3:7-9) “Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you **an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.**” (v. 3:12) “Therefore let us **be diligent to enter that rest,** so that no one will fall, through following the same **example of disobedience.**” (v. 4:11) Ref: John 16:13; Romans 8:1-2
- **By daily letting the Word of God uncover hidden things and sanctify!** “For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ **And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.**” (Hebrews 4:12-13) Ref: Revelation 19:15 “**Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you,...**” (Colossians 3:16) “**Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.**”⁸

- **By daily confessing Jesus, the Son of God, our High Priest who sympathizes with our weaknesses!** “Therefore, since we have a **great high priest** who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, **let us hold fast our confession.** ¹⁵ For we do not have a **high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses**, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrews 4:14-15)
- **By daily drawing near to His Throne of Grace!** “Therefore let us draw near with confidence **to the throne of grace**, so that we may **receive mercy and find grace** to help in time of need.” (Hebrews 4:14-16)
- **By daily believing we have been sanctified and have entered the most holy place through the Body and Blood of Christ!** “By this will **we have been sanctified** through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10) “Therefore, brethren, since **we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus,** ²⁰ by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us **through the veil, that is, His flesh,** ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. (Hebrews 10:19-22)

- **By daily Assembling Together (Fellowshipping) in Christ!** “and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:24-25)

- **By daily fixing our eyes on Jesus our forerunner, the author and perfecter of our faith!** “Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² **fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith**, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ **For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself**, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” (Hebrews 12:1-3)