

A Call to Holiness

A Call to Holiness

**Is it possible to be
holy while here on
earth?**

A Call to Holiness

Leviticus 11:44: For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, **and ye shall be holy**; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

1 Thessalonians 4:7: For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, **but unto holiness.**

A Call to Holiness

**What does it mean to
be holy?**

A Call to Holiness

“Holy”

Hebrew: qodesh - ko'-desh (Strong's H6944)

- 1) apartness, holiness, sacredness, separateness
 - a) apartness, sacredness, holiness
 - 1) of God
 - 2) of places
 - 3) of things
 - b) set-apartness, separateness

A Call to Holiness

Revelation 18:4: And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, *Come out of her, my people*, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

A Call to Holiness

Exodus 20:8-10: Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: *But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God:* in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

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Leviticus 23:3-4: Six days shall work be done: *but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings. These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.*

Verse 4 (NLT): **In addition to the Sabbath**, these are the Lord's appointed festivals, the official days for holy assembly that are to be **celebrated at their proper times each year.**

A Call to Holiness

What makes us holy?

A Call to Holiness

Exodus 31:13: Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, *Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep:* for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that **I am the LORD that doth sanctify you.**

Ezekiel 20:12: Moreover also *I gave them my sabbaths,* to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that **I am the LORD that sanctify them.**

A Call to Holiness

**How do we become
holy?**

A Call to Holiness

Hebrews 12:1-2: Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, *let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us,* and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, *Looking unto Jesus* the **author and finisher of our faith;** who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

A Call to Holiness

Philippians 1:6: Being confident of this very thing, that he which *hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.*

1 John 1:7: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and **the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.**

The blood of
Jesus Christ and
His ministry on
our behalf in the
Most Holy Place
of the heavenly
sanctuary is
what makes us
holy.



A Call to Holiness

- It *IS* possible for us to be holy.
- Holy means to be set apart.
- We are to be set apart from sin.
- The *seventh-day* Sabbath was set apart from the rest of the week and from *annual* Sabbaths.
- God is who makes us holy.
- We are made holy through the blood of Christ.
- Jesus atoning work on our behalf began at the Cross.
- Christ continues His work on our behalf as our High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary.

A Call to Holiness

What is sin?

1 John 3:4: Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

A Call to Holiness

What law?

The Laws of God

**Ceremonial Law
(Law of Ordinances)**

**Moral Law
(Ten Commandments)**

The Laws of God

Ceremonial Law

Law of Ordinances

1. **Spoken by Moses** – Exodus 24:3; 35:1; Leviticus 1:1-2
2. **Written by Moses** – Exodus 24:4; 34:27; Deuteronomy 31:9, 24
3. **Written in a book** – Deuteronomy 31:24; 2 Chronicles 35:12
4. **Handed by Moses to the priests** – Deuteronomy 31:9, 25-26
5. **Placed beside the ark** – Deuteronomy 31:24-26
6. **Dealt with ceremonies** – Parts of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers & Deuteronomy
7. **A “shadow” of things to come** – Colossians 2:17; Hebrews 10:1-10
8. **A “yoke of bondage”** – Galatians 5:1-6
9. **Made nothing perfect** – Hebrews 7:19; 9:9-10; 10:1
10. **Nailed to the Cross** – Colossians 2:14

The Laws of God

Moral Law

The Ten Commandments

1. **Spoken by God** – Exodus 20:1, 22; Deuteronomy 4:12-13; 9:10
2. **Written by God** – Exodus 24:12; 31:18; 32:16; 34:1; Deuteronomy 9:10
3. **Written on tables of stone** – Exodus 24:12; 31:18; 34:1
4. **Handed by God to Moses** – Exodus 31:18; 24:12; Deuteronomy 5:22; 9:10
5. **Placed inside the ark** – Deuteronomy 10:2, 5; 1 Kings 8:9
6. **Dealt with moral precepts to God and man** – Exodus 20:3-17; Matthew 19:17
7. **Eternal precepts** (it's always been wrong to worship false gods, murder, steal, etc.)
8. **Law of liberty** – James 1:25; 2:12
9. **Perfect** – Psalm 19:7
10. **Lasts forever** – Psalm 111:7-8; Matthew 5:17-18

THE Law of God

**What law is 1 John 3:4
referring to?**

THE Law of God

**God's Eternal Law:
The Ten Commandments**



The purpose of God's Law

- The law reveals to us that sin exists (Romans 7:7; 1 John 3:4)
- Sin lets us know that we need a Savior (Acts 5:31; Romans 6:23).
- If you get rid of the law, you don't know that sin exists (Romans 4:15).
- **If you don't know that sin exists, you don't realize you need a Savior.**

John 14:15:

**If ye love me, keep my
commandments.**

Confusion in the churches

Satan's attack

Revelation 12:17: And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Confusion in the churches

Distortion of the truth from within

2 Peter 2:1-3 (NKJV): But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even **denying the Lord** who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.

And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.

By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not [will not] slumber.

Confusion in the churches

Distortion of the truth from within

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4: Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; **so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God**, shewing himself that he is God.

Confusion in the churches

2 Peter 3:14-16: Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved *brother Paul* also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; ***As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest [twist], as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.***

Confusion in the churches

➤ Which of Paul's writings have been twisted and are often misunderstood?

- **Writings concerning the law.**
- People teach that obedience to the law means bondage.

The Law of Liberty

James 1:22-25 (NKJV): But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, *deceiving yourselves*. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the *perfect law of liberty* and *continues in it*, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

The Law of Liberty

Does grace excuse God's law?

Titus 2:11-12: For the **grace** of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, **Teaching us** that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.

Jude 1:4 (NKJV): For certain **men have crept in unnoticed**, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, **who turn the grace of our God into lewdness** and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Law of Liberty

2 Peter 2:19: *While they promise them liberty*, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

The Real Issue

Colossians 2:13-17: 13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. 16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, *or of the sabbath days*: 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

The Real Issue

- Christians don't really have an issue with the Ten Commandments; the real conflict is over the Sabbath.
- God established the Sabbath at Creation and gave it to mankind as a gift (Mark 2:27).
- As God's people, we are to worship and serve God obediently. Any disobedience to God is directly or indirectly honoring Satan. Satan is the source of all evil and it is counter to the good that God established.
- The authority of God is in the Sabbath commandment; the authority of Satan is in Sunday.

The Real Issue

2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 (NKJV): And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, *and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.* And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

The Real Issue

Isaiah 58:13-14 (NKJV): If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, *From* doing your pleasure on **My holy day**, *And call the Sabbath a delight,* The **holy day of the LORD** honorable, *And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways,* Nor finding your own pleasure, *Nor speaking your own words,* **Then you shall delight yourself in the LORD;** *And I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, And feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the LORD has spoken.*

The Sabbath Truth

- The Sabbath was **made holy by God** (Exodus 20:11).
- The Sabbath is **a sign to God's people that they are holy** (Exodus 31:13)
- Keeping the Sabbath holy is **a sign that we acknowledge that God, the Creator, is who makes us holy** (Ezekiel 20:12, 20).
- The Holy Spirit seals God's people (Ephesians 1:13; 4:30)
- The Sabbath is **the sign that we are sealed** (reference Romans 4:11)

Does God have a seal?

Elements of a seal:

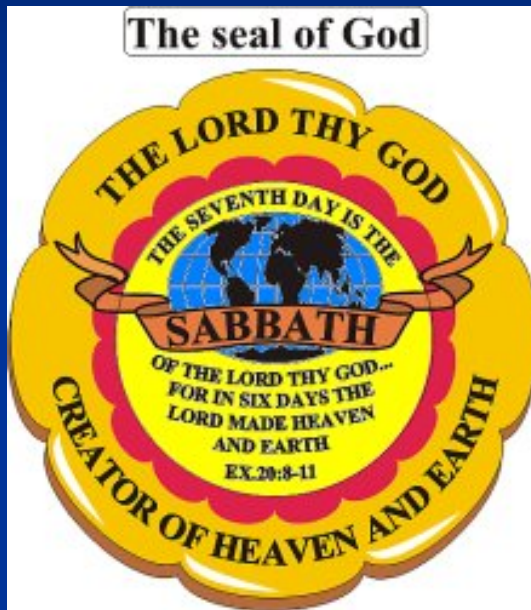
- Name
- Title
- Dominion

The Seal of the United States



- Name – Barak Obama
- Title – President
- Dominion – USA

The Seal of God



Exodus 20:11: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Name: the LORD thy God

Title: Creator

Dominion: Heaven and earth

The 144,000 have the seal of God

Revelation 7:1-4: And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

Characteristics of the 144,000

Revelation 14:1-5: And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.

Characteristics of the 144,000

- Father's name written in their foreheads
 - God's character
 - God's Seal (Sabbath) - reference Revelation 7:1
- Not defiled by "women" (false doctrine by misguided churches)
- Follow the Lamb wherever he goes (into the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary)
- Firstfruits unto God and Jesus
- No guile in their mouths
- Without fault before God's throne

The mission of the 144,000

Not necessarily literal Jews

(Revelation 7:5-8)

- Judah - Now I will praise the Lord (Genesis 29:35)
- Reuben - He has looked on my affliction (Genesis 29:32)
- Gad - Granted good fortune (Genesis 30:11)
- Asher - Happy am I because I'm blessed (Genesis 30:13)
- Naphtali - I have prevailed (Genesis 30:8)
- Manasseh - I have forgotten my toil (Genesis 41:51)
- Simeon - I was hated (Genesis 29:33)
- Levi - My husband will be joined unto me (Genesis 29:34)
- Issachar - God has rewarded me [for giving my maidservant to my husband] (Genesis 30:18)
- Zebulun - My husband will dwell with me (Genesis 30:20)
- Joseph - God has taken away my disgrace (Genesis 30:23)
- Benjamin - (Ben-Oni - "son of my trouble") "son of my right hand" (Genesis 35:18)

The mission of the 144,000

Revelation 7:9-10: After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, *which no man could number*, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

**The mission of the
144,000 is to take God's
message of mercy to
the world.**

The mission of the 144,000

The Three Angels' Messages

Revelation 14:6-7: And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

The mission of the 144,000

The Three Angels' Messages

Revelation 14:8 And there followed another angel, saying, **Babylon is fallen, is fallen**, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

The mission of the 144,000

The Three Angels' Messages

Revelation 14:9-12: And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, **If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God,** which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: **and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.** Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

The mission of the 144,000

- Preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world
- Teach obedience to God, the Creator
- Teach that we're living in the time of judgment
- Teach the Sabbath truth
- Teach that Roman Catholicism, mainline Protestantism & New Age religions are in apostasy
- Warn people to not receive the mark of the beast
- Teach obedience to God's commandments
- Teach righteousness by faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior

Who are the 144,000?

**Revelation 7 & 14 are not
the only references to
the 144,000 in the Bible.**

**The 144,000 and the last-
day “elect” are the same
group of people.**

Who are the 144,000?

Matthew 24:22, 24: And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: **but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.** For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, **if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.**

Who are the 144,000?

**The elect
(God's chosen people)
in the Old Testament were the
children of Israel**

Who are the 144,000?

Isaiah 42:1: Behold my servant, whom I uphold; **mine elect**, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

Isaiah 45:4: For Jacob my servant's sake, and **Israel mine elect**, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.

Isaiah 65:22: They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and **mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.**

Who are the 144,000?

Israelites are those who prevailed with God and with men (they were to represent God on earth before all men).

Genesis 32:28: And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

Who are the 144,000?

**Jesus is the true
fulfillment of Israel!**

Luke 4:16-19: And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, **as his custom was**, he went **into the synagogue on the sabbath day**, and stood up for to read.

And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias [Isaiah]. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,
To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

**The Israelites understood
this prophecy to be speaking
about them as God's chosen
people!**

Luke 4:20-21: And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

And he began to say unto them, **This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.**

Jesus is the true Israel!
We who believe in Him
as our Savior are
spiritual Israelites
(Galatians 3:26-29)

Who are the 144,000?

Jesus is the true elect.

1 Peter 2:6: Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

Who are the 144,000?

Those who have the character of Jesus Christ become a part of His last-day elect.

The last-day elect are gathered together with Christ when He returns and stand with Him on mount Zion.

Who are the 144,000?

Matthew 24:31: And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall **gather together his elect** from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Revelation 14:1: And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, **and with him** an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

Who are the 144,000?

**The last-day elect come out
of God's "remnant" church**

Who are the 144,000?

Revelation 12:17: And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 14:12: Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Who are the 144,000?

They are the ones who remain in the remnant after others are shaken out.

Who are the 144,000?

Hebrews 12:25-26: See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, *much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:* Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, **Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.**

Who are the 144,000?

Hebrews 12:27-28: And this word, Yet once more, *signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken*, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby *we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.*

Who are the 144,000?

James and Peter write to the elect.

- 1 Peter 1:1-2
- James 1:1

Hebrews is also written to the elect

Who are the 144,000?

- An “elect” group of people who come out of God’s remnant church
- Keepers of God’s commandments, including the seventh-day Sabbath
- Undefined by false religions and doctrine
- Maintain faith in Jesus Christ

Response to the 144,000

Revelation 18:1-4: And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, **having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.** And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.**

Response to the 144,000

The ministry of the 144,000, as well as the final events of end-time prophecy unfolding before their very eyes, will lead all who truly call on the name of God to leave Babylon and enter into God's truth.

The light of God's word will penetrate the darkness that has shrouded the truth for over a millennia through deception brought on by Satan and the Antichrist.

Response to God's Truth

Those who remain faithful to Christ receive God's seal by the Holy Spirit

Those who reject God's truth will receive the mark of the beast

We can't do it alone...

Psalm 20:1-2: The LORD hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee; **Send thee help from the sanctuary**, and strengthen thee out of Zion.

We can't do it alone...

Only the power in the blood of Jesus Christ can give us the strength and will to remain obedient to God.

John 4:23: But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.