

“Holiness”

Text: Hebrew 12:5-15

Intro:

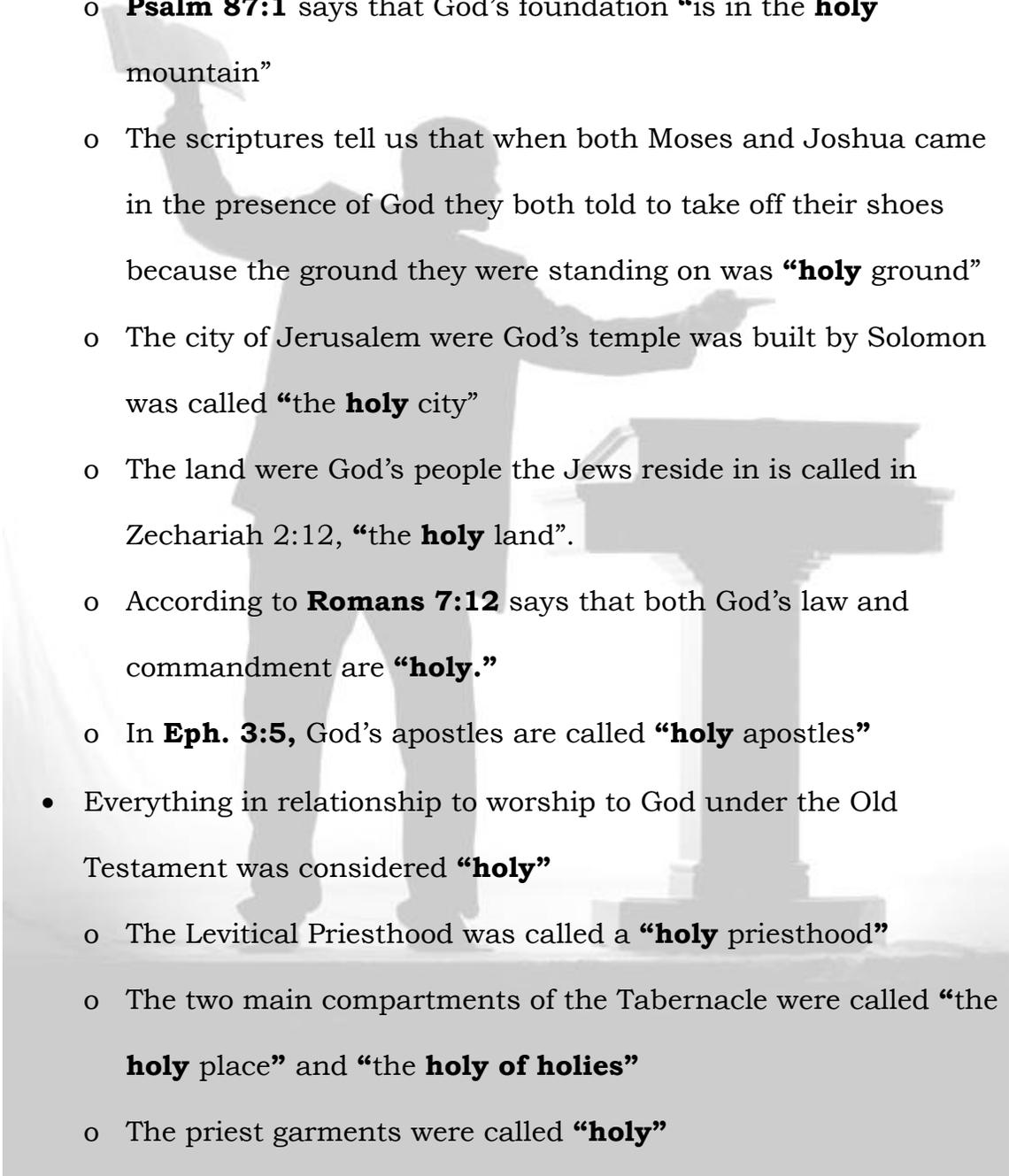
⇒ Notice verse 14.

- The word of God says very clearly that without holiness a man cannot see God.
- Based on the word of God, I believe the reason that many Christians have not seen God is because they lack holiness,
- When I say have not seen God, I am not talking about what Oral Roberts claim to have seen a 50 foot Jesus.
- I am talking about have not seen God working in their lives, have not felt the hand of God on them for a long time.
- I have not experienced that close relationship and walk with God.
- This morning I want to speak about Holiness and being holy according to the word of God.

⇒ **I. Defintions**

- **Holy – Adjective**
 - o Properly, whole, entire or perfect, in a moral sense.
 - o Hence, pure in heart, temper or disposition; free from sin and sinful affections.

- o Applied to the Supreme Being, holy signifies perfectly pure, immaculate and complete in moral character; and man is more or less holy, as his heart is more less sanctified, or purified from evil dispositions.
 - o Also means – Hallowed; consecrated or set apart to a sacred use, or to the service of worship of God.
 - o **The word “holy” appears 544 times in the word of God.**
 - o **Holy is important to God.**
 - **Holiness – Noun**
 - o The state of being holy; purity or integrity of moral character; freedom from sin; sanctity.
 - o Applied to the Supreme Being, holiness denotes perfect purity or integrity of moral character, one of his essential attributes.
 - o Applied to human beings, holiness is purity of heart or dispositions; sanctified affections; piety; moral goodness, but not perfect.
 - o **The word “holiness: appears 43 times in the word of God.**
 - o **Holiness is important to God.**
- ⇒ **II. In Relation to God**
- Everything connected with the Lord God is “**holy**”
 - o **Leviticus 20:3** says the LORD’ name is **holy**.
 - o **1 Samuel 2:2** – “There is none **holy** as the LORD”
 - o **Psalm 145:17** – “The LORD...**holy** in all his works.”

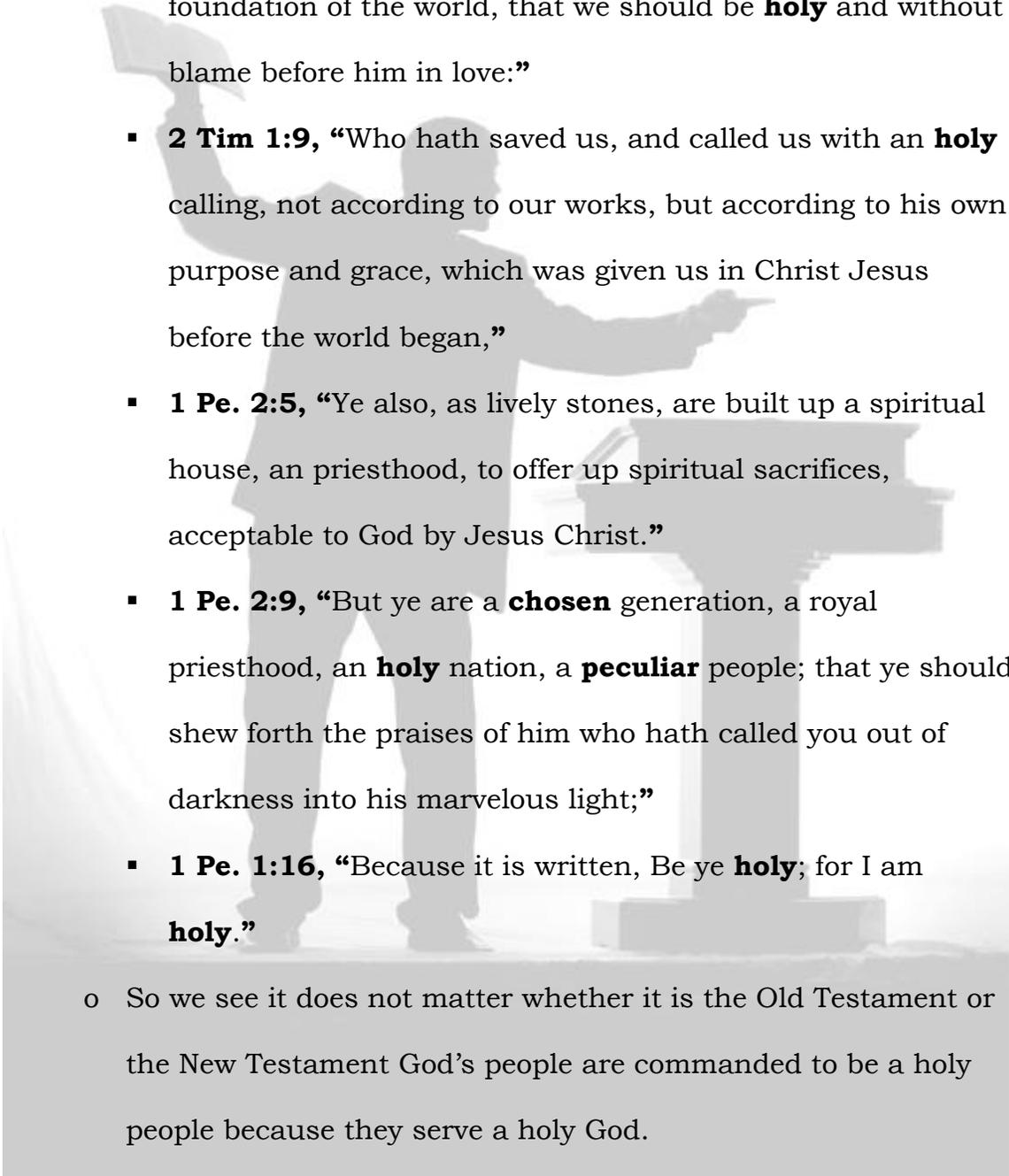
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- o **Psalm 98:1** says the LORD' arm is **holy**.
 - o **Deuteronomy 26:15** say the place where God lives is called the **holy** habitation.
 - o **Psalm 105:42** calls the promise that God made to Abraham "his **holy** promise"
 - o **Psalm 87:1** says that God's foundation "is in the **holy** mountain"
 - o The scriptures tell us that when both Moses and Joshua came in the presence of God they both told to take off their shoes because the ground they were standing on was "**holy** ground"
 - o The city of Jerusalem were God's temple was built by Solomon was called "the **holy** city"
 - o The land were God's people the Jews reside in is called in Zechariah 2:12, "the **holy** land".
 - o According to **Romans 7:12** says that both God's law and commandment are "**holy.**"
 - o In **Eph. 3:5**, God's apostles are called "**holy** apostles"
 - Everything in relationship to worship to God under the Old Testament was considered "**holy**"
 - o The Levitical Priesthood was called a "**holy** priesthood"
 - o The two main compartments of the Tabernacle were called "the **holy** place" and "the **holy of holies**"
 - o The priest garments were called "**holy**"

- o The offerings were called **“holy”**
- o The vessels were called **“holy”**
- o The oil used was called **“holy”**
- o The Feast days were called **“holy”**
- **God’s Word is called “the holy scriptures in Romans 1:2 & 2 Timothy 3:15.**
 - o Also we referred to it as the **“Holy Bible”**
 - o Who did God have write the scriptures?
 - Just anybody?
 - **2 Pe. 1:21**, “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but **holy** men of God spake as they were moved by the **Holy** Ghost.”
 - God used holy men to write down His words.
 - God used holy men to translate his inspired, inerrant, preserved words into the English AV 1611 King James Bible.
- **The Trinity –**
 - o We have seen where God, the Father is **“holy”**
 - o God’s Spirit is many times called **“the Holy Spirit”** in the Bible.
 - o The devil in **Luke 4:34** calls Jesus, **“the Holy One of God.”**
 - o In **Acts 4:27**, the Apostle Peter and John referred to Jesus as **“holy child Jesus”**
- **Holiness**
 - o **Psalm 47:8**, “...God sitteth upon the throne of his **holiness**”

- o **Psalm 108:7** says God speaks in his **“holiness”**
- o **Psalm 97:12** instructs God’s people to give thanks at the remembrance of God’s **“holiness”**
- o Isaiah reminds us in **Isa. 35:8** that during the Millennium the Lord is going to have a highway called **“The way of holiness”**.
- o **Amos 4:2** tells us that the Lord God **“hath sworn by his holiness”**

⇒ **III. Old Testament versus New Testament**

- **O.T. – The Prophet Isaiah’s vision – See Isa. 6:1-3**
- **N.T. – The Apostle’s John’s vision – See Rev. 4:6-8**
- **God’s command to His people**
 - o **O.T. – Israel**
 - **Deut. 7:6**, “For thou art an **holy** people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath **chosen** thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.”
 - **Deut. 14:2**, “For thou art an **holy** people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath **chosen** thee to be a **peculiar** people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.”
 - **Lev. 20:7**, “Sanctify yourselves therefore, and **be ye holy**: for I am the LORD your God.”

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- **Lev. 20:26**, “And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.”
 - o **N.T. Christian**
 - **Eph. 1:4**, “According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be **holy** and without blame before him in love:”
 - **2 Tim 1:9**, “Who hath saved us, and called us with an **holy** calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,”
 - **1 Pe. 2:5**, “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”
 - **1 Pe. 2:9**, “But ye are a **chosen** generation, a royal priesthood, an **holy** nation, a **peculiar** people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light;”
 - **1 Pe. 1:16**, “Because it is written, Be ye **holy**; for I am **holy**.”
 - o So we see it does not matter whether it is the Old Testament or the New Testament God’s people are commanded to be a holy people because they serve a holy God.

⇒ **IV. The Christian**

• **1 Co. 3:17 – Read.**

- o Christian's body is suppose to be **holy** because it the temple of God.

• **1 Tim. 2:8 – Read**

- o We are to pray with **holy** hands.
- o Our hands are to be undefiled by sin.

• **Rom. 12:1 – Read**

- o The Christian's body is to be a holy sacrifice.
- o May be why God not accepting your sacrifice because it not holy.
- o God cannot use a dirty vessel.

• **1 Thess. 4:7 – Read**

- o God has called the Christian unto **“holiness”**

• **Rom. 6:19 – Read**

- o We are commanded to yield our body **“servants to righteousness unto holiness”**

• **2 Cor. 7:1 – Read**

- o We are exhorted to perfect **holiness** in the fear of God.

• **Eph. 4:24 – Read**

- o We are instructed to put on the new man because God has created the new man in righteousness and **holiness.**

⇒ **V. The Means of Holiness**

- When the Christian will not voluntarily submit himself to God's call for him to be **holy**
- Won't present his body to God a **holy** sacrifice.
- Won't yield his body to be a servant to righteousness unto **holiness.**
- Won't put on the new man God has created in righteousness and **holiness.**
 - Then God will use chastening as the means to get the Christian to partake of his **holiness.**
 - **See Hebrews 12:9-11.**

⇒ **Conclusion:**

- If we are honest with ourselves, the reason the individual Christian and the church as a whole is not having the influence it once had on the world.
 - It is because we have been called unto to holiness but we refuse to answer the call to live a holy life.
 - Despite God's chastening to get us to be partakers of His holiness we continue to fight him.
 - Just as Joshua told the children of Israel that they could not serve God because he is a holy God.
 - The same is true day.
 - Christian you just cannot serve a holy God unless you are holy.

- o The Lord could return at anytime.
 - That fact alone should make you live a holy life for Him.
 - I close with this please turn to **2 Pe. 3:8-11, v. 11** – **“holy conversation”**

