

## The Mountain of His Holiness

In the bible, the word mountain is often symbolic of government. The mountain of His Holiness could just as easily read the government of His Holiness. Everything about God is holy and as His people we too must be holy.

**1 Peter 1:15,16....*But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.***

As God's people we are called to service. We are here to serve almighty God.

**Isaiah 52:11...*Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from hence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessel of the Lord.***

Can you imagine being called to minister to a king or head of state and not making any preparation to being presentable. At meal times we come with dirty hands, dirty clothes and dirty bodies ready to serve the meal. How long would that ruler put up with us? But so often that's how we come to God.

Just as an earthly ruler would not accept such an offering, neither will God.

**Psalms 24:3-5....*Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in his holy place?***

***He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.***

***He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.***

There is a beauty in holiness and in God's government, which the eyes of sinful men cannot see but there is also a holy dread. In the book of **Hebrews 12:21** Moses the man who spoke to God face to face said each time he approached the mount of God ***he exceedingly feared and quaked.*** If Moses felt that way every time he approached Mount Sinai how much more should we when we approach the Mountain of God.

**Hebrews 12:22 – 29....*But ye are come unto Mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels. To the general assembly and church of the first-born, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect. And to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel. 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. 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: For our God is a consuming fire.***

Sometimes we can become too familiar with God, but God can be very unpredictable. We never know when he is going to say enough is enough.

***2 Samuel 6:6,7....And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it, for the oxen shook it. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error, and there he died by the ark of the Lord.***

Uzzah trespassed against God just once and it cost him his life. I have always felt sorry for this man for it appeared that he was just trying to help. God does not need our help. We need to be careful that we do not take upon ourselves, things that do not concern us.

***2 Chronicles 26:16-21....But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the Lord his God, and went into the temple of the Lord to burn incense upon the altar of incense. And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him fourscore priests of the Lord, that were valiant men: And they withstood Uzziah the king, and said unto him, It appertaineth not unto thee, Uzziah to burn incense unto the Lord, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast trespassed; neither shall it be for thine honour from the Lord God. Then Uzziah was wroth, and had a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the Lord, from beside the incense altar. And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the Lord had smitten him. And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house, being a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the Lord.***

If a part of our body becomes infected with cancer we cannot simply leave it and hope the cancer will go away. We may delay taking action because of fear of the operation and the pain it will cause but if it is simply left there without action it will eventually lead to the body's demise and possible death. Many years ago God revealed to me that there was a church within the church. In 1993 God called the church out of the church. It was painful and traumatic as is every operation where a part of the body is removed but without such action the whole body would have been corrupted.

Many of us were separated from family and close friends during the operation. Many thought then that there would be no further separation citing ***Zechariah 13:9*** where God said he would, ***bring the third part through the fire***. But we have seen the refining process continue, as God relentlessly continues to bring His church to perfection. Many we never thought would depart are no longer with us.

**1 John 2:19....They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.**

When Israel came out of Egypt it was a mixed multitude that came out with them. It was this same mixed multitude that were instrumental in stirring up trouble against Moses, God's chosen leader and lusting after what they had left in Egypt; the **leeks**, the **garlic** and the **cucumbers** etc. [**Numbers 11**].

**St. John 10:27,28....My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.**

The true sheep will be obedient to the voice of the Shepherd, Jesus Christ. To be the people of God we have to continue to walk in the light to the best of our knowledge and ability as we covenanted. When we refuse to obey and walk in the light we can no longer claim to be the church of God.

It's not the fact that we are named "The Church of God" that makes us The Church of God. In our early history we can trace our roots to **The Holiness Church at Camp Creek**, then we were **The Church of God**, then we were **The Church of God of Prophecy** and now we are once again **The Church of God**.

To remain The Church of God we must be obedient to God.

**Exodus 19:8....And all the people answered together, and said, All that the Lord hath spoken we will do.**

They failed to keep their part of the agreement and were cut off by God. Being the Church of God comes with obligations on our part. Jesus said in **St. Luke 12:48.... For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.**

Our righteousness must exceed that of the scribes and the Pharisees. We have to live better than the average Christian. If we fail to be The Church of God we too will be cut off.

**Romans 11:21,22....For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.**

**"Submitted by Philip Bennett."**