

How about it people of GOD!

by Messianic Rabbi Michael Weygant

There is little to no argument among biblically informed people when it comes to the statement: *The LORD desires His people to follow His instructions*. Basically, this means the LORD desires us to obey His word and to have a right spirit while doing so. Yet, it is also true, not every moment in our individual lives entails being 'front and center spiritual operatives' in His kingdom. Sure, everything we say and do is important since we are called to be His ambassadors. Yet, there are times when our Heavenly Father purposely keeps His people and even whole nations, behind the scenes while He goes about dealing with other factors essential for His eventual purposes to be done.

In the Book of Esther, the heroine was a behind-the-scene spiritual operative, divinely embedded for a season within a nation at-large, Persia. Esther remained concealed, hidden as it were from common task until 'such a time as this' as the bible text famously declares. As GOD was orchestrating His will with others, He was concurrently preparing Esther (and Mordechai) for a critical role in which she was front and center in the fulfilling of His will. She obeyed with valor and saw with

satisfaction deliverance and victory for the Jewish people of Persia.

Too, as Israel was brought forth mightily from Egypt, GOD made known to Moshe that the sins of the *ethnoi* (peoples) then living in the Land promised by HaShem to Avraham, Yitzhak and Ya'akov, were rising to a level necessitating His direct actions against them. Time lapsed, but His plan and purpose didn't. In the right time, Israel entered into the Land of the Patriarchs - the Promised Land, the Holy set-apart-by-GOD-for-them Land. And, as Providence so willed, Yeshua the Promised Messiah came at exactly the perfect time to that very Promise Land.

With the aforementioned in mind, we can conclude holiness (or sanctification) is a divinely mandated setting-apart process prescribed for all messianic believers. GOD's people are called to a set-apart place, not a place of total disaffection. *We are in the world but not of the world*. We are to shine as lights in a darkened place, not to become



Michael Weygant,
Messianic Rabbi

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What is Holiness and How Do I Get There?

קדשים תהיו כי קדוש
אני יהוה אל היכם

I Peter 1:16

This is a pretty good question and not everyone would give the same answer. The words Holy and Holiness are used many times and on many occasions throughout Scripture and therefore it is best to let the Bible define and explain Biblical terms. Certain sacrifices are termed holy as well as special days and places. Exodus 20:11 says that *"the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."* Numerous verses tell us that GOD Himself is Holy and is called the "Holy One of Israel," (Ps. 71:22, 78:41, Is. 1:4, 5:19 et al). Normally, places are holy because GOD designated them holy.

If you want a fresh understanding of what Holy means, it's good to start thinking about our English word "whole." Something that is called "whole" is complete. It is not broken or missing any parts. GOD is whole in that He is not broken by sin as we are. He carries no wounds. He is not diluted with evil tendencies but pure light undefiled by darkness. He has no weaknesses and depends on nothing or no one. GOD is separated from sin and unlike any created being. All creation recognizes or will recognize His holiness and will praise and honor Him for it.

In Isaiah 6, the prophet has a vision of heaven and sees angels (seraphs) surrounding His throne. They were calling to each other. *"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty. The whole earth is full of His glory,"* (Is. 6:3). Perhaps they do this continually because they are always noticing something new and wonderful about Him in His

holiness. Remember there is no one like Him in heaven or on earth. Notice in the next few verses that Isaiah himself is overcome by his own sinfulness as he sees this revelation of our Holy GOD.

Since GOD's moral character is understood to be holy, that would mean that since we are created in His image, we are to express His holiness and reflect it throughout the earth. I Peter 1:14-16 tells us *"Therefore get your minds ready for work, keep yourselves under control, and fix your hopes fully on the gift you will receive when Yeshua the Messiah is revealed. As people who obey GOD, do not let yourselves be shaped by the evil desires you used to have when you were still ignorant. On the contrary, following the Holy One who called you, became holy yourselves in your entire life; since the Tanakh says,*

'You are to be holy because I am holy.' "


I Peter 1:16 (CJB)

Imagine this! The GOD who is holy and without equal commands us to be holy also! Sound impossible? Well, it is if you go about it in the wrong way. Think about this. GOD regularly tells us to do impossible things many times. He tells us to forgive those we might have been hurt by and are angry with. How about loving our enemies? Can you do it by your own will power and intellectual strength or do you need help? He frequently allows situations to come our

way that we can't handle alone. Then we have to call on Him for help. Through each and every "impossibility," we learn greater trust and reliance on our creator. Faith grows through trials when we confess our inabilities and rely on His ability.

GOD's plan for each of us is to be "set apart" from everything that has to do with spiritual darkness. Sin is not just an action; it is also a state of mind that dwells on unholiness. As we progress in our spiritual journey, the Holy Spirit reveals more and more darkness that has had control over our lives or has broken us somehow. It's all sin and we must remember that Yeshua paid the price for our redemption from every unholy thing. Holiness does not grow in us because we are such good law keepers. As a matter of fact, the practice of trying to be holy by our strong wills or many good deeds will only hinder the grace of GOD.

We should be glad that the Lord knows our weaknesses. If He didn't, He might be thinking that I could achieve Holiness on my own merits. Let us walk a deeper walk with Him and receive that holiness which He imparts by confessing a total reliance on Him. Let us practice expecting His ways to become more obvious to us daily. Ask Him to give us a new hunger for His word. Pray that He would show you new ways in which He is setting you apart from any darkness.

Remember, Yeshua in you is your holiness. When we decrease. He increases. 

Dr. Richard Lineberry

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- **For the promised outpouring of the Spirit upon all Israel.**

Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. — Joel 3:1 (alt. 2:28)

- **For Israel's leaders and people to have the wisdom to respond properly to external threats and internal strife.**

For I know the thoughts that I have toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. — Jeremiah 29:11

- **For continued prosperity, growth, favor and influence for Israel's Messianic Jewish community.**

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach the restorer of streets to live in. — Isaiah 58:12

- **For protection and safety for Israel in this period of unrest in the Middle East, and that coming changes will serve God's purposes.**

Behold, he who keeps Israel will either slumber nor sleep. — Psalm 121:4

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Day 3 – Tue Feb 18: Travel South to Beer Sheva, Ben Gurion's house
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Day 4 – Wed Feb 19: Masada, Ein-Gedi, Qumran, to Jerusalem
(Israel Museum if time permits)

Day 5 – Thu Feb 20: Alon Moreh, Tel Shiloh and Beth El

Day 6 – Fri Feb 21: Morning visit to Hebron, Gush Etzion visitor
center, view of the city of Jerusalem from the
Haas Sherover Promenade, and the Garden Tomb

Day 7 – Sat Feb 22: Free time to enjoy Shabbat or
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Day 8 – Sun Feb 23: Temple Mt., City of David, Jewish Quarter,
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Western Wall Tunnels

Day 9 – Mon Feb 24: Travel to Galilee, Qaser El Yehud, Capernaum,
Mt. of Beatitudes, Tabgha, Boat ride,
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Day 10 – Tue Feb 25: Tel Dan, Caesarea Philippi, Golan Heights

Day 11 – Wed Feb 26: Megiddo, Caesarea, Tsippori, Jaffa

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The Mystery of What We Know

By Sue Thurston

Isn't this odd? Sometimes we think we have discovered a great new pearl of wisdom from our Parasha. We are excited to open the pearl to our cohorts and sibling believers to discuss its implications when we begin to realize that we knew and understood this great mystery all along! Moreover, it is a certainty most of our friends know it also. What is the meaning of this?

Could you agree with me that The Word is appropriately called "The Living Word"? For individual reasons in our lives, whether curiosity, or a growing distance, desperation or joy, or innumerable other life situations, as we read, we are drawn into a message as if it is highlighted in yellow marker. As it draws us into its depth, we may sense an intensity, a new pathway is forming in our thought processes, in our application, even in our hearts.

Then we remember what we may have forgotten in our quest for new information. It is all about Yeshua!

What we thought we knew has just become more amazing as He gives us deeper understanding of who He is. He is growing us, and overlaying a deeper meaning upon what we already know. We always end up at that place where we discover Yeshua the Messiah again! In that process He is taking us further into Himself. He, in His glory, will join with us again. He tells us through Isaiah at 66:24: "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear."

The author of Hebrews at Chapter 2: 11-13 reiterates the scripture where Yeshua tells us he is one with us: "Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Yeshua Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again he says, "Here am I, and the children GOD has given me".

Yeshua is growing us, putting His word in our hearts because GOD gave us to Him. He is preparing us to join Him. Why us? (Us, being the Jew and the adopted.) John 1:11: "He came unto His own, and His own received him not. 12) But as many as received Him, to them gave the power to become the sons of GOD, even to them that believe on His name; 13) Which were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of GOD. We do believe John at Chapter 1:14: "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of Grace and truth."

Every day His mercies abound. As we search the scripture and call to Him, He hears us. It is amazing because this truth is the reality believers seek, not the crumbling, corrupt reality we live in each day, but the eternal, REALity the Ancient of Days is writing moment by moment upon our hearts. ✨

Sue Thurston

How About it People of GOD!

darkened ourselves. A simple tune is often more profound than its simplicity suggests. *This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine* is surely more indicative of the calling of a messianic believer than exclaiming, *This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it die out*.

Truth be told, all messianic believers are set apart whether they realize so or not. Any believer (including you!) could be called at any time by the Ruach haKodesh to a front and center position of usefulness and direct influence for GOD and His Kingdom purposes. Are you willing? And if willing, are you willing to take action for His purposes and not just your own?

Let the behind-the-scenes workings of the Holy Spirit in our lives continue because such dealings

have Kingdom of GOD meaning and purpose.

If a person keeps himself free of defilement ... he will be a vessel set aside for honorable use by the master of the house and ready for every kind of good work. 2 Timothy 2:21 CJB

So, how about it people of GOD! Pursue holiness – sanctification – in the fear of the LORD while knowing one question ever looms large to all who follow Messiah Yeshua: Are you ready to be more activated in personal devotion and service to the LORD Yeshua? His dealings with you behind-the-scenes are important in your life. His dealings may also be important to those around you, to your family, to the community of fellowship with whom you are connected and to this very generation, *for such a time as this*. ✨

Messianic Rabbi Michael Weygant

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SAT, JULY 20 WORSHIP TEAM CONCERT | 6:30- 8:30 PM

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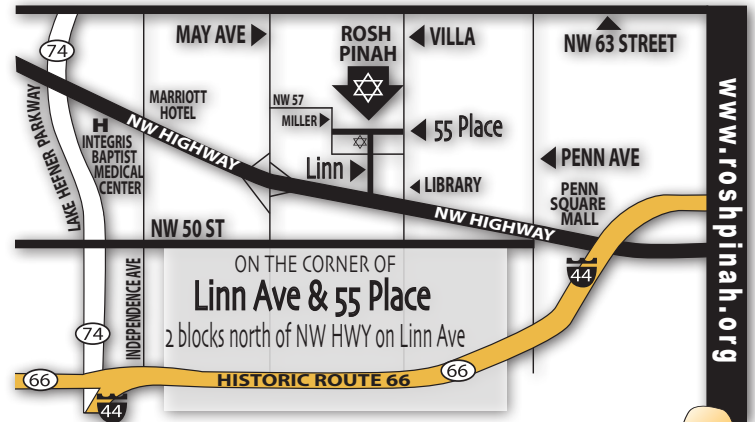
ROSH PINAH is a Messianic Jewish Congregation of both Jewish and non-Jewish believers in Yeshua "Jesus" of Nazareth, the Messiah. In the Hebrew, Rosh Pinah means "Cornerstone" and signifies that Yeshua the Messiah is the cornerstone of our faith.

Our study and teaching is centered upon the Jewish scriptures, consisting of the Tenakh (Torah, Prophets, and Writings) and the Brit Chadashah (New Covenant). We study the scriptures from a Jewish perspective, recognizing that they were written and preserved by faithful Jewish men of GOD.

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