

consecrated = qadash (kaw-dash') = to be set apart as sacred, to be wholeheartedly devoted to the things of God

1 Peter 3:15

In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord...

"Worldliness is what any particular culture does that makes sin seem normal and righteousness seem strange." – David Wells, author & professor at Gordon-Conwell Seminary

"You know you're in the middle of a moral revolution when..."

1. What was universally condemned is now celebrated.

2. What was universally celebrated is now condemned.

3. Those who refuse to celebrate are condemned." – Theo Hobson, Cambridge PhD, author

Hezekiah becomes King of Judah after 16 years of a downward spiral under his father's leadership (Ahaz).

➤ **Cleansing**

2 Chronicles 29:3-6

3 In the first month of the first year of his reign, he opened the doors of the temple of the LORD and repaired them. 4 He brought in the priests and the Levites, assembled them in the square on the east side 5 and said: "Listen to me, Levites! Consecrate yourselves now and consecrate the temple of the LORD, the God of your fathers. Remove all defilement from the sanctuary. 6 Our fathers were unfaithful; they did evil in the eyes of the LORD our God and forsook him. They turned their faces away from the LORD's dwelling place and turned their backs on him.

"Put first things first and second things are thrown in. Put second things first and you lose both first and second things." – C.S. Lewis

2 Chronicles 29:17

They began the consecration on the first day of the first month...finishing on the sixteenth day of the first month.

16 years of defilement warranted 16 days of cleansing!

➤ **Sacrifice**

2 Chronicles 29:19-21

19 We have prepared and consecrated all the articles that King Ahaz removed in his unfaithfulness while he was king. They are now in front of the LORD's altar." 20 Early the next morning King Hezekiah gathered the city officials together and went up to the temple of the LORD. 21 They brought seven bulls, seven rams, seven male lambs and seven male goats as a sin offering for the kingdom, for the sanctuary and for Judah. The king commanded the priests, the descendants of Aaron, to offer these on the altar of the LORD.

1 John 1:7

But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.



Consecration is costly and, in Jesus, it becomes a lived reality.

➤ **Dedication**

2 Chronicles 29:29-31

29 When the offerings were finished, the king and everyone present with him knelt down and worshiped. 30 King Hezekiah and his officials ordered the Levites to praise the LORD with the words of David and of Asaph the seer. So they sang praises with gladness and bowed their heads and worshiped. 31 Then Hezekiah said, "You have now dedicated yourselves to the LORD. Come and bring sacrifices and thank offerings to the temple of the LORD." So the assembly brought sacrifices and thank offerings, and all whose hearts were willing brought burnt offerings.

In light of the Person that I'm consecrated to, in light of the purpose that He's called me to, in light of the power that He promises for the battle...I now invest my time, energy, attention and resources in alignment with His vision for my life.

Once the "order of loves" is set/reset in the heart, our priorities, values and choices will be affected.

Reflection...

- Are there some places of compromise & casualness that need to be cleansed from my heart?
- Where do I sense the Spirit of God saying, "surrender, loosen your grip, trust me"?
- How is God leading me when I reflect on rightly placed "yes's" and courageous "no's"?
- What is clearer to me now than it's ever been?