

FROM Faith2Faith

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I AM *Distinguished*

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Abridged Version



Proclaiming the Word of Faith unto Soteria

I Am Distinguished

The Lord has been stirring and enlightening me to a reason or cause for the things He has been depositing into me for the last 3 decades. I have lived and enjoyed a good life and it is only getting better and better. But this good life with and in Him, life that's rooted in His Word and doing that Word is not just for each of us to enjoy for ourselves only. It is for each of us to be a blessing and a light to the world and the body of Christ. I am going to briefly share over the next two newsletters what God is showing me about us - His family.

Moses makes an amazing statement in Ex 33:16 asking God "what will separate or distinguish us, Your people, from all the other people of the earth but the fact that You are *with us*." I am not going to get into the details of God With Us (see the Mar/Apr Faith 2 Faith for the article *With God nothing is impossible*) but the sad truth is a lot of Christians have God living in them but nobody knows it because they act and talk like the world. The Holy Spirit said it this way through the apostle Paul in 1 Cor 3:1-3 Amp. "*I could not talk to you as to spiritual [men], but as to nonspiritual [men of the flesh, in whom the carnal nature predominates], as to mere infants [in the new life] in Christ [unable to talk yet!] ... For you are still [unspiritual, having the nature] of the flesh [under the control of ordinary impulses]... behaving yourselves after a human standard and like mere (unchanged) men?*" There is supposed to be a difference between us, the saints, the children of God and the world, the children of the devil. We are to be light in a dark world as Philippians 2:15 states "*That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world.*" We are to be separate, different, distinguished from the rest of the world. God calls this holiness.

The sad thing about holiness is that for those who have been around for a while it connotes length of hair, style of music, clothes, no jewellery or make up, playing cards and so on. None of these outward expressions are holiness. You see 60ish years ago there was a greater degree of the power of God in operation and a greater consecration to God by His people. When the manifestation of the power began to decrease the younger generation decided to copy some of the outward expressions instead of the inward consecration to get the power and glory of God back. Thus, a bunch of rules and regulations. Smith Wigglesworth quoted John Wesley about worldliness saying "worldliness is that which cools our affection towards God." Holiness has everything to do with our fellowship and

intimacy with God and from that affection comes how we dress, speak, what we look like and the music we listen to, and so on. We find out from Him if we should buy this or not, and wear this or not, talk like this or not, His desire is what becomes our desire. Jesus said He always did that which pleased the Father – this is holiness. We are to imitate our Father God according to Eph chapter 5 and walk in love, be thankful, walk circumspectly or as the Amplified Bible reads live purposefully. By making wise purchases with our time, not being thoughtless, foolish and vague about the will of God but firmly grasping it for ourselves and not to be filled with wine but to be drunk with the Holy Spirit by speaking to ourselves in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in our hearts to the Lord. Hebrews 12:14 makes it clear that without holiness we will not see God. The degree of His manifesting Himself in our lives is dependent on the degree of our consecration and dedication to live and serve Him. Our prayer of consecration is to be “Lord not my will but your will be done, I will go where you say go, stay where you say stay, do what you say do. Thank You for Your grace and the Holy Spirit to help me do it.” A couple definitions of holiness are separated, set apart or we could also use the word distinguished. As we dedicate to seek first the King and the advancement of His Kingdom, and His Right Way of doing things (Matt 6:33 amp) we can with confidence know we have set ourselves apart from the rest of the world all for the glory of God.

Noah Webster's 1828 American Dictionary defines distinguished as

1. Separated or known by a mark of difference, or by different qualities.
2. a. Separated from others by superior or extraordinary qualities; whence, eminent; extraordinary; transcendent;

A man or woman or young person who walks in holiness is a distinguished individual. One who is separated and is known by their different qualities. In Christ Jesus we have been made superior and extraordinary in every area of life. In John 10:10 Jesus said it this way - I have come that you may have life and have it more abundantly. The phrase *more abundantly* in the Greek can also be translated as excessively, beyond measure and superior in quality. God's will for us is NOT to be normal, average and ordinary BUT to be *distinguished*.

Next month we will get into the why or what is the big deal about being distinguished.