

Holy Things

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Ezekiel 22:26 Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they showed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.

Ezekiel 44:23 And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

PROFA'NE,

1. Irreverent to any thing sacred; A man is profane when he treats sacred things with abuse and irreverence.
2. Irreverent; proceeding from a contempt of sacred things.
3. Polluted; not pure.
4. Allowed for common use; as a profane place. Ezekiel 42. and 48.

PROFA'NE, v.t. To violate any thing sacred, or treat it with abuse, irreverence, censorious or reproachful language, or contempt; as, to profane the name of God; to profane the sabbath; to profane the Scriptures or the ordinances of God.

To pollute; to defile; to apply to temporal uses; to use as base or common. Ezekiel.24.

- I. There ARE holy things!
 - A. Everything is NOT common!
 - B. The divine order is that there are holy things.
 1. Certain things God himself has set apart that are not for common use.
 2. They are a sort of waymarks that keep our perspective and opinion of ourselves in check.
 - C. Holy things are things that have a shadow of God in them.
 1. They are associated or represent God.
 2. God is greatly offended when these holy things are made common and profaned.
 - D. Holy – Hallowed; consecrated or set apart to a sacred use, or to the service or worship of God.
 - E. Consecrate - to appropriate to sacred uses; to set apart, dedicate, or devote, to the service and worship of God.
 - F. Sacred - Entitled to reverence; venerable.
 - G. What things do YOU consider holy?
 1. What things do YOU hold as sacred?
- II. What are some holy things?
 - A. If there were holy things then, there are surely holy things now – this is a basic characteristic of God's Creation – there are holy things and unholy things.
 1. This is what gives life structure and stability and direction.

2. It is as important as north and south in navigating our way through this life.
- B. Holy things are those things that are set apart by God and are associated with God or represent God before men.
- C. If they are profaned it means they are devalued, defiled, abased, and counted as just a “thing.”
1. It means they are no longer set apart, but available and used by anyone and everyone, any way they want to use them, and any time they want.
 2. It means they are not respected, thought of, or treated in any special way, but are considered as common things, just like everything else.
- D. The people of God are holy.

Deuteronomy 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.

1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

1. Therefore, they should be separate and set apart from the profane world.
2. They should be known as the people of God.
3. When the people of God are not holy the name of God is profaned.

Ezekiel. 36:20 And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned my holy name, when they said to them, These *are* the people of the LORD, and are gone forth out of his land.

- E. Your body is holy.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

- F. The worship of God is holy.
1. Therefore, the place where we worship should be holy – the uncircumcised should have no part in it.

Ezekiel 44:6-9 Thus saith the Lord GOD; O ye house of Israel, let it suffice you of all your abominations, In that ye have brought into my sanctuary strangers, uncircumcised in heart, and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in my sanctuary, to pollute it, even my house, when ye offer my bread, the fat and the blood, and they have broken my covenant because of all your abominations. And ye have not kept the charge of mine holy things: but ye have set keepers of my charge in my sanctuary for yourselves. Thus saith the Lord GOD; No stranger, uncircumcised in heart, nor uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter into my sanctuary, of any stranger that is among the children of Israel.

2. The vessels and the things involved in the worship of God should be holy.
3. The music used in worship should be holy.
4. The people teaching, leading, or preaching should be holy.

Leviticus 22:15 And they shall not profane the holy things of the children of Israel, which they offer unto the LORD;

Numbers 18:32 ... neither shall ye pollute the holy things of the children of Israel, lest ye die.

- G. Marriage is holy.
 - 1. The purity of the marriage relationship reflects the relationship between God and man.
 - 2. To regard it lightly or to degrade and berate it is to profane something holy.
 - 3. Husband and wife are sanctified for one another – set apart for one another.
 - 4. Irreverence in the holy things of God is like adultery in a marriage.

- H. The family is a holy institution.
 - 1. The relationship between parents and children is a holy relationship.
 - 2. It is patterned after the relationship between the Heavenly Father and his children.
 - 3. When it is reduced down to simply a friendship it is made common and profaned. I am my children's father – not their buddy
 - 4. When a child willingly allows someone else to take the place of their father or mother it is profaning a holy thing.

- I. The Word of God is Holy.
 - 1. It is the Word of God – not man's idea of the Word of God.
 - 2. When man adds his slant on it he profanes it.
 - 3. When man rewrites it to suit himself he profanes it.
 - 4. The very premise behind all the versions of the Bible is to make a very Holy thing common, like reading any other book.

- J. The Son of God is holy.
 - 1. What we think of Jesus tells what kind of person we are.
 - 2. If you have not embraced Him and given your life to Him, you do not consider Him to be who He says He is at all.
 - 3. Many people say they have given their life to Jesus, but the way they live and talk about Him shows that they do not consider Him the high and holy Almighty God, but rather more of a buddy, friend, or benefactor.

- III. A rebellious and apostate people always makes the holy things common.
 - A. They abolish the difference between holy and profane and clean and unclean.

Ezekiel 22:8 Thou hast despised mine holy things, and hast profaned my sabbaths.

- B. Nothing is sacred anymore.
- C. Nothing holds any special meaning or purpose.
- D. Nothing or no one is worthy of any respect or special consideration.
- E. It turns very ugly when an entire society becomes irreverent and profane and nothing is sacred or special anymore.
- F. It all gets turned around backwards and upside down: when a people or an individual person becomes apostate and irreverent they begin to consider common and profane things to be holy.
 - 1. They call evil good and good evil – and then demand that evil be held in high esteem and honored.
 - 2. They consider base things to be noble and have contempt for noble things.
 - 3. They love animals and hate people.

4. They love fantasy and hate truth.
5. They reverence an idol and despise the invisible God.

IV. So it is very easy to see the importance of holy things.

- A. When everything becomes equal in the eyes of the people and there is nothing special or sacred, all purpose and direction is lost.
- B. When we live our lives as if everything were equal and nothing is holy or special our example to others is saying there is no God and no judgement, no resurrection, and so nothing really matters.
- C. Holy things on this earth are those things associated with God and the service of God.
- D. Holy things here on earth are those things that have been set apart by God and touched by God.
- E. There are also degrees in the importance of holy things.
 1. The Bible speaks of "holy things."
 2. It also speaks many times of "most holy things."
- F. We better be careful in how we use God's name, how we treat his people, his house, his tithes, his gifts to us, such as marriage and parenthood.
- G. We better show reverence for things that are declared to be holy by the Bible.
- H. The closer you are to God the more sensitive you will be in this matter.
- I. It is an offense to God when we fail to reverence Him and the things that are associated with Him.