First Fruits First Special and Holy People January 1, 2022

*“Today the Lord has proclaimed you to be His special people, just as He promised you, that you should keep all His commandments, and that He will set you high above all nations which He has made, in praise, in name, and in honor, and that you may be a holy people to the Lord your God, just as He has spoken*.” [Deuteronomy 26:18-19]

Ever wonder why God makes us Holy? The simple answer: Because He wants to!

Only God can make something holy, so it’s impossible to know exactly how and why He does it. Try as we might, we cannot make anyone or anything holy. A profound and amazing truth.

But it gets better, much better. We’re more than His servants, we are members of His “family.” Being a “special people” tells us volumes about how our Heavenly Father views us. God wants to give us the very best that He has to offer. That’s why He calls us His “special people.”

God Almighty gives us instructions. We know these as commandments. God gave these 10 Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai.

Moses delivered them as he descended from the Mount. He found his older brother Aaron, the high priest of Israel, had fashion a golden calf - which the 12 tribes decided to use for worship. Seeing this idol, an incensed Moses smashed the pair of tablets upon which these ordinances were inscribed.

Then God had Moses carry these commandments down the mountain a second time. The Lord is set on blessing His “special people.” He wants us, His “special people,” to be His “holy people.” This can only be accomplished on His terms.

God asks us to follow His guidelines. He doesn’t make us. It’s our choice. We are responsible for this choice. Our decision determines the nature of our relationship with our Creator. God has already shown us what He requires of us. The only variable is our response to His offer.

Our obedience to these commandments is essential for the Lord to make us holy. Just as our obedience draws us into intimacy with Our Father, our disobedience distances us from Him. Holiness is not possible without the presence of God.

God had Israel build Him a holy tabernacle, a dwelling place for His glory. Here, as on Mount Sinai, Yahweh gave Moses the Torah to instruct His “special people” to be a “holy people.”

Our Father wants to be near His “special people” to give us a foretaste of eternity with Him. Thus, in the fullness of time, God sent His Holy Son, the Firstfruit of Creation, Emmanuel, God with us, to make us “holy people” so we can be together always. What a divine gift!