

February 25, 2023

Holiness, How?

Q: What do you call someone who is driving too slow in Missouri?

A: Solomon

Q: Why?

A: Because they were driving Shlomo [The Hebrew form of 'Solomon']!

Jim Templer, MODOT engineer



At more than 1,000 years old, the Codex Sassoon is the world's earliest near-complete Hebrew Bible. Soon, it could also become the "most valuable historical document ever sold at auction," according to a statement from Sotheby's. The auction house expects to sell it for between \$30 and \$50 million in May.

The Codex Sassoon is roughly a century older than the Leningrad Codex, the oldest entirely complete Hebrew Bible, per Sotheby's. It's closer in age to the Aleppo Codex, which dates to around 930—but Aleppo is missing nearly 2/5 of its pages.

Historians say a scribe wrote out the text on roughly 400 sheets of parchment in the late ninth or early tenth century. Eventually, the book landed at a synagogue in present-day Syria, which was then destroyed around the 13th or 14th century. Notes in the codex indicate that its next steward was Salama bin Abi al-Fakhr, who was supposed to keep it safe until the synagogue was rebuilt. It wasn't rebuilt—and the codex disappeared for the next 600 years.

It resurfaced in 1929, when British collector David Solomon Sassoon purchased it for £350, Sassoon's heirs had it until 1978, when the British Rail Pension Fund purchased it for \$320,000. It was sold for \$3.19 million in 1989.



וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂאוֹל נִרְדָּה
אַחֲרַי פְּלִשְׁתִּים
לַיְלָה וְנִבְּזָה בְּהֵם
עַד-אוֹר הַבֶּקֶר,
וְלֹא-נִשְׂאָר בְּהֵם
אִישׁ, וַיֹּאמְרוּ, כָּל-
הַטּוֹב בְּעֵינֵינוּ
עֲשֵׂה;

In addition to the 24 books of the Hebrew Bible, the Codex Sassoon's pages also include ownership records and detailed notes on how words should be written and recited.

[<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/the-oldest-nearly-complete-hebrew-bible-is-going-up-for-auction-180981658/>]

Continuing the study in the Book to the Messianic Jews ...

Mes Jews/Heb 12.14-15 Pursue shalom with everyone, and the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one misses out on God's grace, that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble and thus contaminates many. [Summary statement of the Book.]

Holiness, how?

1. The challenge

Vayikra/Lev 19.2 “Speak to the entire community of Isra’el; tell them, ‘You people are to be holy because I, Adoni your God, am holy.

[To the entire community, not just Aharon first, Elders, 50s. This is all encompassing.

G-d has many attributes: Infinite, Self-existing, immutable, Omniscient, Omnipresent, All Powerful, Self-sufficient, All wise, Good, Just, Merciful, Loving, Glorious. This is the first one that G-d urges us to enter into.

This chapter many mitzvot by which to be holy.]

Vayikra/Lev. 20.26 **You people are to be holy for me;** because I, Adoni, am holy; and I have set you apart from the other peoples, so that you can belong to me.

Shmot/Ex 25.8 They are to make me a sanctuary, so that I may live among them.

bə-tō-w-kām.

wə-šā-kan-tī

miq-dāš;

lī

wə-‘ā-sū

בְּתוֹכֵם:

וְשָׁכַנְתִּי -

מִקְדָּשׁ

לִי

וְעָשׂוּ

[Ayelet Steckbeck, Yeshiva girl, heard a rabbi explain, “among them” means not just among the camp, but in their spirits. But few are worthy. She determined to be worthy. Eventually came to faith in Messiah, while in the women’s Yeshiva in Jerusalem.]

Dvarim/Dt. 7.5-7 For you are a people set apart as holy for Adoni your God. Adoni your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his own unique treasure. Adoni didn’t set his heart on you or choose you because you numbered more than any other people — on the contrary, you were the fewest of all peoples.

Holiness, how?

2. Holiness by mitzvot and Presence

crimes. Create in me a clean heart, God; renew in me a resolute spirit.

Shmot/Ex 34.29 When Moshe came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, he didn’t realize that the skin of his face was sending out rays of light as a result of his talking with [Adoni].

T’hillim/Ps 51.11-12 Turn away your face from my sins, and blot out all my

Holiness, how?

3. Holiness Promised

D’varim 10.12-13,16 “So now, Isra’el, all that Adoni your God asks from you is to fear ADONI your God, follow all his ways, love him and serve ADONI your God with all your heart and all your being; to obey, for your own good, the mitzvot and regulations of ADONI

which I am giving you today ... **Therefore, circumcise the foreskin of your heart; and don't be stiffnecked any longer!**

[No one can do this, except a friend who had open heart surgery, and had his pericardial membrane opened for surgery. But, it was closed up later anyway.

No one can perfectly reflect the character of G-d, keep mitzvot.]

D'varim 30.5-6 **ADONI your God will bring you back into the land your ancestors possessed, and you will possess it; he will make you prosper there, and you will become even more numerous than your ancestors. Then ADONI your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your children, so that you will love ADONI your God with all your heart and all your being, and thus you will live.**

[Not exclusively THEN, but a new level of return!! Seen in the modern State of Israel.]

Yeshayahu/Is 61.1-3 **The Ruach of ADONI Elohim is on me, because Adoni has anointed me to proclaim the year of the favor of ADONI and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn, yes, provide for those in Tziyon who mourn, giving them garlands instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a cloak of praise instead of a heavy spirit, so that they will be called oaks of righteousness planted by Adoni, in which he takes pride.**

Yekhezkael/Ezk 37.12-14 **Therefore prophesy; say to them that ADONI Elohim says, 'My people! I will open your graves and make you get up out of your graves, and I will bring you into the land of Isra'el. Then you will know that I am ADONI —.' when I have opened your graves and made you get up out of your graves, my people! I will put my Spirit in you; and you will be alive. Then I will place you in your own land; and you will know that I, ADONI, have spoken, and that I have done it,' says Adoni."**

Yoel 3.1-5 **After this, I will pour out my Spirit on all humanity. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions; and also on male and female slaves in those days I will pour out my Spirit...At that time, whoever calls on the name of ADONI will be saved.**

[Combination of mitzvot, doing right, and Presence.]

Yermiyahu 31.30-33 **"Here, the days are coming," says ADONI, "when I will make a ¹ new covenant with the house of Isra'el and with the house of Y'hudah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers on the day I took them by their hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt ... For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adoni: "I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will any of them teach his fellow community member or his brother, 'Know Adoni'; for all will know me, from the least of them to the greatest; because**

² I will forgive their wickednesses and remember their sins no more."

[A promise of entering into Holiness.]

Holiness, how?

4. Holiness Imparted

LK.22.20 He took the cup after the meal, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you.

Mtt 26.28 For this is my blood, [Some mss. say: *new covenant.*]

touto	gar	estin	to	haima	mou
τοῦτο	γάρ	ἐστίν	τὸ	αἷμά	μου
This	for	is	the	blood	of Me

Mtt 26.28 [which ratifies] the New Covenant, my blood shed on behalf of many, *Some mss. say: new covenant.*

tēs diathēkēs to peri pollōn
τῆς διαθήκης τὸ περὶ πολλῶν
of the covenant - for many

Mtt 26.28 so that they may have their sins forgiven.

ekchynnomenon eis aphesin hamartiōn
ἐκχυννόμενον εἰς ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν
being poured out for forgiveness of sins

[Corresponds to Jeremiah: term
“New Covenant” forgiven.

Implied: imparted holiness.

Duality of Mitzvot and presence!]

2 Cor.3.18 But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory—just as from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Holiness, how?

5. Holiness and the Holy Spirit



<https://fb.watch/iRXSi0CBG/>

My Thoughts on the Asbury Revival: Phil Cohen

On Wednesday, February 8, 2023, Pastor Zach Meerkreebs shared a devotional with a handful of students at a small Christian college in the remote town of Wilmore, Kentucky. He encouraged students to “sit in the love of God—to taste, see, and experience the power of the Holy Spirit.”

[from my friend Phillip Cohen]

Asbury received word that the movement has traveled to other college campuses

- University of Kentucky
- Eastern Kentucky University
- Kentucky Christian
- Christ for the Nations in Dallas, Texas
- Jackson High School in Jackson, Georgia
- Cedarville University in Cedarville, Ohio
- Ohio Christian University
- Lee University, Tennessee
- Bethel in Austin, Texas
- Park University in Parkville, MO
- Indiana Wesleyan University
- The Gate Church Charlotte in North Carolina
- King’s Way Church in Birmingham, Alabama
- Kingdom Life Church in Waterville, Maine

[<https://fox56news.com/news/local/asbury-university-revival-sparks-global-movement/amp/>

from Josie Rothman]

What about Asbury University?
Is it sound doctrinally?
Does it apply to our quest for holiness?



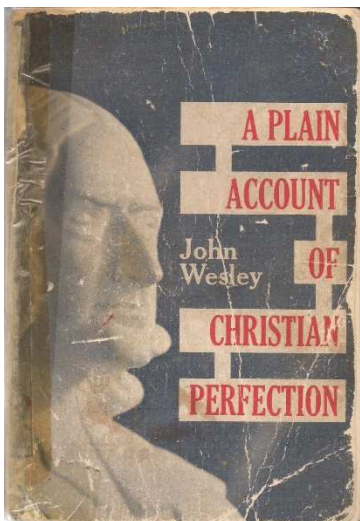
[<https://www.asbury.edu/about/>]

Asbury University Statement of faith

7. That entire sanctification is that act of divine grace, through the baptism with the Holy Spirit, by which the heart is cleansed from all sin and filled with the pure love of God. This is definite, cleansing work of grace in the heart of a believer, subsequent to conversion, resulting from full consecration and faith in the cleansing merit of the blood of Messiah Yeshua.

8. That the Holy Spirit bears witness both to the new birth and to entire sanctification, enables the believer to live a godly life, to grow in the graces of the Spirit, and to walk blamelessly in His holy commandments.

[<https://www.asbury.edu/about/spiritual-vitality/>]



Entire sanctification?

Entire sanctification John Wesley described in 1790 as the "grand depositum which God has lodged with the people called Methodists". Wesley taught that entire sanctification was obtainable after justification by faith, between justification and death. Wesley defined it as: "That habitual disposition of soul which, in the sacred writings, is termed holiness; and which directly implies, the being cleansed from sin, 'from all filthiness both of flesh and spirit;' and, by consequence, the being endued with those virtues which were in Messiah Yeshua; the being so 'renewed in the image of our mind,' as to be 'perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect.'"

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Wesley]

John Wesley was the first to articulate that there is another significant experience in the life of believers after the new birth. Other terms:

- Filled with the Spirit
- Immersed in the Spirit
- Indwelling of the Spirit

[I grew up spiritually under this teaching. I never really experience Entire Sanctification, although apparently some did.]

Or HaOlam Statement of Faith [https://orhaolam.com/uploads/Statement_of_Faith.pdf]

5. I am enjoying or seeking the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, empowering me to live a holy and effective life.

Holiness, how?

6. Holiness Revival History

In 1700s England, poverty was widespread and endemic. One out of every four women were prostitutes, many of them as young as eight years old. Thousands died annually from syphilis and gonorrhea. Crime abounded. Slavery was widespread and brutal. Gambling widespread, whole country was a casino. [<https://seedbed.com/wesley-wrath-revival-changed-nation/>]

The Wesleyan Methodist movement grew rapidly, numbering 450,000 members by the end of the 1800s. The slave trade was abolished, huge social gains by spiritual reformation!

[<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Methodism#ref466642>]

Most say that the Wesleyan revival is the reason England did not have the violent destructive revolution that the French did. There were spiritual manifestations. The jerks. No speaking in tongues, just transformed lives.]



The Azusa Street Revival was a historic series of revival meetings that took place in Los Angeles, California. It was led by William J. Seymour, an African-American preacher. The revival began on April 9, 1906, and continued until roughly 1915.

On the night of April 9, 1906, Seymour and seven men were waiting on God, "when suddenly, as though hit by a bolt of lightning, they were knocked from their chairs to the floor," and the other seven men began to speak

in tongues and shout out loud praising God. *[Other congregations which taught the filling of the spirit (Holiness) thought tongues was of the devil. This was my teaching as a new believer, 1969 till 1999. Many teach speaking in unknown languages = tongues is the evidence of the filling of the Ruakh. I just believe that such is a gift of G-d for building you up in the Ruakh, intercession.]*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Azusa_Street_Revival]

Holiness, how?

7. Holiness Scripture Summary

Acts 20.20-21 "I did not shrink back from proclaiming to you anything that was profitable, teaching you publicly as well as from house to house, testifying to both Jewish and Greek people repentance to God and trust in our Lord Yeshua.

Acts 20.32 **Now I commit you to God and the word of His grace, which is strong to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who have been made holy.**

Acts 26.17-18 **I will rescue you from your own people, and from the Gentiles to whom I am sending you, to open their eyes—so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of satan to God, that they may receive release from sins as well as a place among those who are made holy through trusting in Me.**

¹Thes 5.12-23 Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to recognize those who work hard among you and are over you in the Lord and correct you, and to esteem them beyond all measure in love because of their work. Keep shalom among yourselves. We urge you, brothers and sisters,

¹Thes 5.12-23 correct the unruly, comfort the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. See that no one repays evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good for one another and for all. Rejoice always, pray constantly, in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Messiah Yeshua.

¹Thes 5.12-23 Do not quench the Spirit, do not despise prophetic messages, but test all things, hold fast to what is good, keep away from every kind of evil. **Now may the God of shalom Himself make you completely holy**; and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept complete,

¹Thes 5.12-23 blameless at the coming of our Lord *Yeshua* the Messiah. Faithful is the One who calls you—and He will make it happen!

Eph 5.18-20 Don't get drunk with wine, because it makes you lose control. Instead, **keep on being filled with the Spirit** — sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to each other; sing to the Lord and make music in your heart to him; always give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah. [*Have you ever been filled with the Spirit as an additional experience from G-d since being born again?*]

Gal 2.20-21 When the Messiah was executed on the stake as a criminal, I was too; so that my proud ego no longer lives. But the Messiah lives in me, and **the life I now live in my body I live by the same trusting faithfulness that the Son of God had, who loved me and gave himself up for me**. I do not reject God's gracious gift; for if the way in which one attains righteousness is through legalism, then the Messiah's death was pointless. [*i.e, mitzvot and not Presence*]

Ro 12.1-2 I exhort you, therefore, brothers, in view of God's mercies, **to offer yourselves as a sacrifice**, living and set apart for God. This will please him; it is the logical "Temple worship" for you. In other words, do not let yourselves be conformed to the standards of the *'olam hazeh*. Instead, **keep letting yourselves be transformed by the renewing of your minds**; so that you will know what God wants and will agree that what he wants is good, satisfying and able to succeed.

Ro 6.19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you yielded your body parts as slaves to uncleanness and lawlessness, leading to more lawlessness, so **now yield your body parts as slaves to righteousness**, resulting in holiness.

Holiness, how?

1. Holiness Challenge
2. Holiness by Mitzvot and Presence
3. Holiness Promised
4. Holiness Imparted
5. Holiness and the Ruakh Hakodesh/ Holy Spirit
6. Holiness Revival History
7. Holiness Scripture Summary

1. Let's seek Him [repentance and faith] in the new birth.
2. Let's seek Him [inner repentance] for the filling of the Spirit, for Holiness imparted, for inner transformation. Commit to resources of study, prayer, faith, obedience.