

The High Priest

DAY 2—HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD

And you shall be holy to Me, for I the Lord am holy, and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine. (LEVITICUS 20:26)

SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR THE PRAYER TIME

Praise

- Lord, we praise You for who You are—You are powerful, wise, merciful, and loving.
- We praise You for calling each of us to be holy.
- We praise You because You have the power to make us holy.

Confession and Claiming Victory Over Sin

- Lord, please show us which sins we need to confess openly and which we need to confess privately. We claim Your victory over those sins.
- Forgive us for times we have tried to overcome sin in our own strength.
- Forgive us for times we have failed to reveal Your character to others. May our lives always show that we are set apart by You and belong to You.

Supplication and Intercession

- Father, please show us what it means to be holy. Reveal to us Your holiness.
- Show us how to strive for “the holiness without which no one will see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14).
- Lord, may our “whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 5:23).
- Please create in each of us a clean heart (Psalms 51:10).
- Please show us how we can glorify You in our bodies (1 Corinthians 6:20).
- Bless the Adventist Development and Relief Agency as they meet the needs of the poor and forgotten.
- Lord, please strengthen our faith and lead us to spend more time in Bible study and prayer. Let us walk with You daily as Enoch did.
- Please turn our hearts toward eternal values rather than the distractions of this world. Protect us from worldly influences that threaten our daily spiritual experience.
- Father, let Your will be done in our lives and in our church, rather than our own will. Make us humble, teachable, and willing to embrace Your plans.
- Please lead each of us to crucify self and live by the power of Jesus. We ask especially that You lead our young people to dedicate their entire lives to Your service.
- We pray for the seven (or more) people on our individual prayer lists. May they open their hearts so You can make them holy.
- We also pray for the personal needs of those gathered here.

Thanksgiving

- Lord, thank You that we have been washed, sanctified, and justified “in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God” (1 Corinthians 6:11).
- Thank You that You can give us new hearts (Ezekiel 36:26).
- Thank You that we are sanctified by Your Word (John 17:17).

SUGGESTED SONGS TO SING

“Live Out Thy Life Within Me” (SDA Hymnal #316); “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” (SDA Hymnal #290); “Take Time to Be Holy” (SDA Hymnal #500); “Wholly Thine” (SDA Hymnal #308); “I Would Be Like Jesus” (SDA Hymnal #311); “Whiter Than Snow” (SDA Hymnal #318).

Holiness unto the Lord

And you shall be holy to Me, for I the Lord am holy, and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine. (LEVITICUS 20:26)

“Holiness to the Lord” was the inscription on the mitre of the High Priest. The Lord is calling us, just as He called the priests in the old times, to live set-apart and holy lives. Our lives are a witness for Him.

Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, “Take away the filthy garments from him.” And to him He said, “See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes.” And I said, “Let them put a clean turban on his head.” So they put a clean turban on his head, and they put the clothes on him. And the Angel of the Lord stood by. (Zechariah 3:4, 5)

The Lord does not deny the charge of Joshua’s unworthiness, but demonstrates that He has bought him with a price. He clothes him with His garments of righteousness, not putting these garments over the filthy garments of disobedience and transgression, but first He says, “Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him He said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment. And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head,” upon which was written, “Holiness unto the Lord.” (*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 20, pp. 190, 191)

The Christian is to stand as a representative of the principles of heaven. He is bound by sacred obligations to represent the truth in its virtue and loveliness. Gentleness and kindness and strict truthfulness should mark his words and actions. Consecrated to God, set apart to His service, he will always honor his religious faith. No thread of selfishness is to be woven into the character. We are to educate ourselves to reveal the Spirit of God in all our lifework. The Spirit of God will never lead the steps of God’s children astray. Through the power that the Holy Spirit imparts, we may weed out from our lives every questionable thing. If we will come out of the darkness with which a lack of faith enshrouds the soul, and place ourselves where the clear shining of the light of God’s word can fall fully upon us, we shall be led step by step in the path that leads to holiness. . . . (*This Day with God*, p. 281)

God has from eternity chosen men to be holy. “This is the will of God concerning you, even your sanctification.” The echo of His voice comes to us, ever saying, “Holier, holier still.” And ever our answer is to be, “Yes, Lord, holier still.”

No man receives holiness as a birthright, or as a gift from any other human being. Holiness is the gift of God through Christ. Those who receive the Saviour become sons of God. They are His spiritual children, born again, renewed in righteousness and true holiness. Their minds are changed. With clearer vision they behold eternal realities. They are adopted into God’s family, and they become conformed to His likeness, changed by His Spirit from glory to glory. From cherishing supreme love for self, they come to cherish supreme love for God and for Christ. (*Signs of the Times*, Dec. 17, 1902)

Our Saviour is a Saviour for the perfection of the whole man. He is not the God of part of the being only. The grace of Christ works to the disciplining of the whole human fabric. He made all. He has redeemed all. He has made the mind, the strength, the body as well as the soul, partaker of the divine nature, and all is His purchased possession. He must be served with the whole mind, heart, soul, and strength. Then the Lord will be glorified in His saints in even the common, temporal things with which they are connected. “Holiness unto the Lord” will be in the inscription placed upon them. (*God’s Amazing Grace*, p. 230)

If men in any line of work ought to improve their opportunities to become wise and efficient, it is those who are using their ability in the work of building up the kingdom of God in our world. In view of the fact that we are living so near the close of this earth’s history, there should be greater thoroughness in labor, more vigilant waiting, watching, praying, and working. All the religious service and every branch of business are to bear the signature of heaven. “Holiness unto the Lord” is to be the motto of the laborers in every department. The human agent should strive to attain to perfection, that he may be an ideal Christian, complete in Christ Jesus. (*Review and Herald*, Oct. 5, 1905)

But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.” (1 Peter 1:15, 16)