

I AM. . .

JEHOVAH MEKADESH: THE LORD WHO SANCTIFIES YOU

I. Welcome and Worship, Holy God:

Playlists: Just As I AM Instrumentals
I AM . . . Jehovah Mekadesh

Worship today soaking in this truth: Sanctification is NOT the same as purification. The Lord sanctified the seventh day of the week as holy - -BEFORE sin entered the world.

Sanctification is *setting aside and declaring as holy*. As the Lord did with the seventh day, so He desires to do with us. We can do that best, by setting aside portions of our lives for nothing but worshipping Him. We get to do that now.

III. Ponder and Proclaim:

It is so beautiful to realize that God *showed* us how He sanctifies us and declares us holy: by asking us to set aside a day of rest and worship for Him. By doing so, we are setting ourselves apart from the rest of the world and stepping into the reality of His sanctification of us.

According to Ken Hemphill, "The term *sanctify* appears frequently in the Old Testament, occurring about 700 times in various forms. The word can be translated as *to dedicate, to consecrate, or to hallow*." (Hemphill, Names of God, p.22.)

1. **In what ways does the world push against our keeping the Sabbath day?**
2. **Does a Sabbath day of rest just happen without forethought and planning?**
3. **How does God invite us to participate with Him in the act of sanctification?** Grasp this: God simply asks us to press *pause* and take mini-vacations to worship Him. In doing so, He allows the "pressing pause" process to sanctify us, recharge us, and set us aside as His holy people.
4. **How can you press *pause* and take a mini-**

IV. Pray and Praise:

To fully appreciate God as *Jehovah Mekadesh*, we must realize two factors: First, we are holy because **God** has declared that we are holy! Then, we must constantly step into that holiness and make the process of sanctification a continual present participle. We are ALWAYS being sanctified throughout our lives. PRAISE HIM: He has declared this! We may claim it! "You shall be holy to me; for I, Yahweh, am holy, and have set you apart from the peoples, that you should be mine." (Leviticus 20:26)

II. SEEK HIM IN: *SCRIPTURE*

Genesis 2:2-3

Leviticus 11: 44-45

Exodus 20:8-11

Exodus 31:13

Psalm 40:1-3

Isaiah 61:10

Ephesians 1:3-4

I Peter 1:3-5

I Peter 2:9-10

