## **Cutting Through**

Sunday Morning, August 14, 2016

I want to start this morning's message off with the question:

"Do you personally find yourself wanting to be a bolder witness for Christ?"

It's important to recognize that to be bold for Christ, we first must be "sanctified" for Christ.

## (Leviticus 20:7)

Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am the Lord your God.

Usually we define the word consecrate or "sanctification" as just being "set apart,"

but the very earliest Paleo Hebrew writings in pictographs give a much deeper meaning than just being "set apart". In fact, it reveals several meanings that need to be applied to our lives to ensure our being "sanctified" (set apart) for God. Here's the meaning for "sanctification" in the earliest Paleo Hebrew writing:

"Have the <u>focus</u> to be a witness each day, working as a <u>cutting edge</u> being a mighty witness!"

(Flip)

Let's break down the meaning of the word "sanctification" and apply its principles:

"Have" – the conscious deliberate action of adding God's <u>values</u> to your life.

"the focus" – looking for and <u>seeking</u> God's will in your life.

"to be a witness" – being an <u>example</u> that <u>reveals</u> who you are in Christ.

"each day" – <u>appreciating</u> that day as an <u>opportunity</u> to be set apart for God's purposes.

"working as a cutting edge – <u>cutting through</u> the dark principles of the world with the Light (of Truth) of God's Word.

"being a mighty witness!" – boldly representing Christ.

So..."Have the focus to be a witness each day, working as a cutting edge being a mighty witness!"

## (I Peter 1: 15 – 16)

15 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

Both Old and New Testament commands of God are for us to consecrate or "sanctify" (set apart) oneself for His purpose.

(Il Timothy 2:15) is a verse that we can use to evaluate being "sanctified" or set apart for God:

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Note: "approved" – acceptable and approved by God through testing of trials. (*Greek is Dok-ee-mos*)

Let me end with these questions:

Have you, or are you, willing to "sanctify" your life by setting it apart for God's purpose daily?

Are you willing to "cut through" the darkness of world principles with the Light of the Truth of God's Word?