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Moving up the Ladder of Set Apartness February, 2008

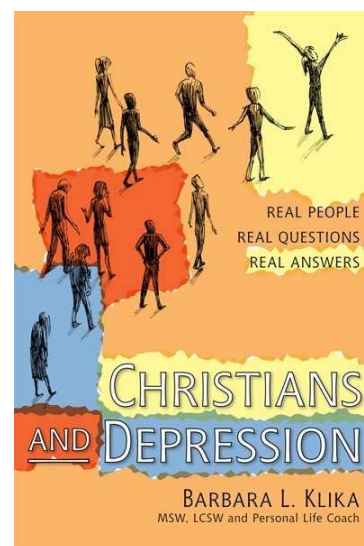


Greetings everyone!

This month I am pleased to present the first in a series of articles by a member of our community, Marsha Van. She tells the story of her own recognition of what being set apart for our God's purposes means in her life. It seems many people are considering the concept of being "set apart" this year so we hope this will add to your understanding and perhaps challenge you as well?

I am also pleased to report that the Christians and Depression book is now available!

[Click here for a preview and purchase information.](#)



Moving Up the Ladder of Set Apartness is next!
We hope you enjoy Marsha's viewpoint and would welcome your comments!

In Service to our Messiah,

Barbara L. Klika, MSW, LCSW, Personal Life Coach
Marilyn Zierhart, Personal Life Coach



Up the Ladder of Set Apartness/Holiness

Part 1 of 4

By

Marsha Van, A.D.N., G.N.

I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside: it shall not cleave to me. Psalms 101: 3 (KJV)

Recently, when I was sick in bed for a time, I found myself spending a lot of time in front of my television. I don't have cable so I played most of the movies I own with brief interjections of local television programming. During one car commercial I heard the words, "Don't miss the greatest event of all time," and I chuckled a little at its unintended humor, what event could man produce that could even begin to compare with the return of our Messiah?

As I continued to meditate on this phrase my humor turned to sadness as I thought about all who would miss that great day and the words of Matthew 7: 23 came to mind:

Then I will declare to them, "I never knew you; depart from me, you who practice lawlessness.'" (NASB)

And I remembered Psalm 101: 3 (as above) This set me to thinking about all the movies I had watched and what images had passed before my eyes over the preceding days and I began to pray for YHVH's discernment in this matter.

My current movie collection is what is left after years of pruning. Initially I leaned on my understanding but eventually moved into purposeful prayer for discernment. As praying became a continual action, the pruning process did also. Each pruning brings me up one more rung on the spiritual ladder of set apartness. With each pruning my collection becomes more

acceptable to YHVH, and so do I.

When I was a small child I didn't understand the concept of set apartness but I did understand that there was a right and a wrong way to act. Good behavior was rewarded while bad behavior resulted in discipline. I didn't like being disciplined but liked the rewards and consequently developed a desire to please my parents. As I grew, I began to understand there was something outside of my parents that influenced their understanding of right and wrong. That something was YHVH and His book of instructions was the Bible. As my understanding of the Bible grew, I developed a sense of justice and virtue and wanted to please YHVH as well as my parents.

In adolescence, a great deal of my behavior came under the influence of social and peer pressure, but I still held to some of my parents' ideals. However, by the time I reached my teens, I had decided I was smarter than my parents, and God, and was capable of choosing for myself what was right and wrong, and I rebelled.

It wasn't until I started having children of my own that I started back on the journey to set apartness. As a mother, I was responsible not only for myself, but for my children as well, and not just their physical well being but also their spiritual well being. I did my best to teach them what I understood they should know and I took great care in selecting TV shows and movies they should watch.

When I look back now I am appalled at what I thought was acceptable then as compared to what I call acceptable now.

I expect to be just as appalled at some of my current movie choices in the future.

When I first recognized the need to scrutinize my video collection, I had to get to know YHVH all over again. Thankfully, He met me with grace and revealed to me what was detestable to Him.

[To continue Marsha's story, click here.](#)

Holy = Set Apart = *Kadosh*

The word we most often see translated as "holy" comes from the Hebrew word, *Kadosh*, which is sometimes transliterated as *Quadosh* or *Kodesh*.

It can just as accurately be used of something set apart for ungodly purposes as God honoring ones. The key issue is NOT just being "set apart",

BUT

being "set apart" to what or Whom?

We are grateful to the Christian Leadership Center for their permission to link to their detailed [word study on Kadosh; both in a direct link here](#) AND in our articles section on the website.

Please check out our website for more information about how [coaching](#) can assist you during your transitions.

You can also see the [archive](#) of our coaching newsletters there.

[If you have been encouraged in this newsletter, please share it with a friend!](#)

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