

Parashat Kedoshim 5786-2026

Touching Holiness

Stay human

Stay Jewish

Victory so touted and sought

To rejoice over the death of our enemies

So deserved, for the suffering they have wrought

To be separate, to bring holiness into the world

To be unlike them, to reflect their hatred unto our souls

To love, with all our inner hearts, our inner souls and with all our might

We, who have lived to see this very day

Must break the cycle

Free ourselves and, in so doing, all humankind

Must gain victory over our foes, and over ourselves

Leave not a trace of Agag, and his heirs

And take no booty, and leave only

A trace of holiness, for others to follow

Shmuel Hakatan said:

“When your enemy falls, do not rejoice; when he stumbles, let your heart not be gladdened. Lest God see, and it will be displeasing in His eyes, and He will turn His wrath from him [to you]” *Avot 4:19 (Proverbs 24:17-18)*