

*PARASHAT KEDOSHIM*  
Week of May 3, 2008

VaYikra (Leviticus) 19: 2 –

Speak to the whole Israelite community and say to them: You shall be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

20:7-8 – You shall sanctify yourselves and be holy, for I the Lord am your God. You shall faithfully observe My laws: I the Lord make you holy.

20:26 –You shall be holy to Me, for I the Lord am holy, and I have set you apart from other peoples to be Mine.

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks: “Paganism is the co-existence of religious worship and injustice.”

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### **Arise and Judge the Earth**

#### **A Psalm of Asaph.**

God rises in the assembly of the mighty;  
He pronounces judgment over the rulers:

“How long will you continue to pervert justice?  
How long will you show favor to the wicked?” Selah.

Be just to the poor and the fatherless;  
Protect the afflicted and the destitute.

Save the poor and needy from injustice;  
Rescue them from the grip of wicked men.

But the rulers do not understand justice;  
They do not know what is righteousness.

They wander about in darkness and ignorance,  
While the earth is shaken to its foundations.

I had thought you were superior beings,  
That you were extraordinary and godlike.

But you will die as do ordinary mortal men;  
You will perish as do all earthly princes.

Arise, O God, and judge all the earth,  
For Your dominion is over all nations.