



“For from the hills I behold him; There! A people dwelling alone, not reckoning itself among the nations.” Numbers 23:9

From its very beginnings Israel was called out from among the nations to be different; to be a unique sign among the “ethnos” of the world, that Yahweh is indeed God! “Now the LORD had said to Abram, “Get out of our country, from you family and from your father’s house...” (Genesis 12:1)

For those whom the LORD calls, He always issues a command for them to come out from their current identities and “be holy,” or that is, be separated to His purposes. Another way to say it might be, “to be sold out to God.”

If we are, in truth, the people of God, there should be a marked difference in not only our outer lifestyle – speech, dress, but also in our motives and attitudes of heart. We should not be so eager to identify with the world’s ways but to follow hard after the LORD.

Current statistics and polls would tend to indicate there is little, if any, difference from the world and the church. If this is so, the only real difference is that the people who attend church on Sunday mornings are wasting their time!

Friend, if you a Christian, God has called you to be different than other people – different, not merely in outward, overtly religious ways, but different deep inside where your character is developed and maintained. “There! A people dwelling alone, not reckoning itself among the nations.”