

Hallowed Be Thy Name

[Word origins]

The history of (*this holiday*) links an ancient pagan ritual with the (Roman Catholic – GC) effort to eradicate it, ending in the repackaged consumer holiday we know today.

Like the article says, this could be one of many holidays (Christmas?), but this is actually in reference to Halloween. The article continues,

During this seasonal change (harvest to winter), the Celts believed that the spirits of the dead wandered just past their rightful territory, into the world of the living. To confuse and repel these ghosts, the Celts wore costumes and masks. (In the 600's, a Catholic pope moved "All Saints Day" – a celebration of the dead – to Nov. 1, and on it goes.)

<https://www.altalang.com/beyond-words/2008/10/30/etymology-of-halloween/> (12/14/2016)

Hallow-e'en means "the *evening* before All *Hallows'* Day," (or All *Saints'* Day).

Saints are "holy ones" – and are defined biblically very differently from how the Catholic church defines them! (but that's a lesson for another time) – and "hallowed" means "holy."

[As a command, "hallow," "sanctify" (especially in the ESV), "fear," and "dread"]

Psalm 34:9 NKJV Oh, fear the Lord, you His **saints!** *There is no want to those who fear Him.*

Isaiah 8:13 NKJV The LORD of hosts, Him you shall **hallow**; Let Him be your **fear**, And let Him be your **dread**.

1 Peter 3:15 NKJV **sanctify** the Lord God in your hearts

[As an object lesson]

Nadab and Abihu [Jewish priests, oldest sons of Aaron] needed this lesson. They "saw the God of Israel.... 11 But on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. So they saw God, and they ate and drank." (**Exodus 24:10-11**). But later,

Leviticus 10:1 (NKJV) Nadab and Abihu ... offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. 2 So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD. (Imagine Aaron's shock and perhaps even outrage!) 3 And Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD spoke, saying: '**By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy**; And before all the people **I must be glorified.**' " So Aaron held his peace.

But Moses failed, too. He let his frustration show at Kadesh, striking the rock when God told him to simply speak to it. **Numbers 20:12** (NKJV) Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, "**Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me** in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them." ...

:13 Israel contended with the Lord, and **He was hallowed** among them.

[Brought up by God later] **Numbers 27:14** NKJV **You rebelled against My command to hallow Me** at the waters before their eyes."

[Prophetically, when Israel was to be restored...]

Isaiah 29:23 NKJV When [Jacob] sees ... The work of My hands, in his midst, They will **hallow** My name, And **hallow** the Holy One of Jacob, And **fear** the God of Israel.

[Conclusions]

Are you helping fulfill that prophecy? Is God hallowed in your life?

We hallow God when we **believe** Him, **fear** Him, **dread** His wrath, and **OBEY** Him.

Have you obeyed the gospel?

Are you living in godly fear?

Can you pray, as Jesus taught, "**Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name**" (**Matthew 6:9**)?