

April 20, 2013 – Acharei Mot-K'doshim

We spent the entire hour this week looking at commentaries on and discussing the first two verses of K'doshim, in which God says: "You shall be holy because I, your God, am holy." We studied the different interpretations of Rashi and Nachmanides; a mystical commentary; and a modern take on what it means when God commands Moses to repeat that statement to the whole Israelite community.

We looked at the different meanings of holiness and asked what the commandment might mean to each of us today, whether that was the same thing it might have meant to the ancient Israelites, and also to the Medieval commentators.

The question that was central to our discussion was, "What is holiness?"