

Saved to the Uttermost

6. Sanctification: Growing in Grace

Selected Scriptures

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Introduction

- Between the moment of justification and the moment of glorification, there is this lifelong process called _____—God’s ongoing work of making His people holy.
- If justification is the declaration of righteousness, sanctification is the _____ of righteousness in our daily lives.
- In sanctification, we, the children of God, are beginning to bear the _____ in this life!

I. SANCTIFICATION IS GOD’S WILL FOR EVERY BELIEVER

- **1Th 4:3** *For this is the _____, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality;*
- **1Th 4:7** *For God has not called us for impurity, but in _____.*
- Sanctify – (*hagiazō*) To make _____; to set apart for God’s use
- When God saved you, He didn’t just save you *from* something (sin and judgment); He saved you *for* something—holiness and _____ with Himself.

A. Positional and Progressive Sanctification

1. **Positional sanctification** – what God has _____
 - **1Co 6:11** *And such were some of you. But you were washed, you _____ sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*
 - We stand before God clothed in the _____ of Christ.

2. **Progressive sanctification** – what God _____ to do.

- So, sanctification is both a _____ and a _____. You are holy in Christ before God, and you are becoming holy through Christ in this world.

II. SANCTIFICATION AND OUR UNION AND IDENTIFICATION WITH CHRIST

- Our salvation in Christ has everything to do with our _____ with Christ.
- Even our present state of “_____” from the power of sin has everything to do with our identification with Christ!

John Murray rightly said, *“It is of paramount concern for the Christian and for the interest of his sanctification that he should know that sin does not have dominion over him, that the forces of redeeming, regenerative, and sanctifying grace have been brought to bear upon him in that which is central in his moral and spiritual being, that he is the habitation of God through the Spirit, and that Christ has been formed in him, the hope of glory.”* (Murray, 154)¹

- Our practical sanctification flows from _____ and _____!
- If we are still convinced that, as Christians, we are _____ by sin, the evidence of what we believe will be expressed in our thoughts, words, and actions.
- Our lives are to reflect the truth that we are in Christ and Christ is in us.

III. SANCTIFICATION IS A WORK OF GOD AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY

- Note this difference between positional and practical sanctification: Positionally, God alone is the One who _____ us holy, righteous, and consecrated in Christ.
- In our practical sanctification – in our growth in godliness, we _____ with God as we follow the leading of the Spirit and obedience to the Word.

¹ John Murray. *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, William B. Eerdmans. Grand Rapids, MI, 1955. Pg 154.

A. God Is the Source

- Sanctification is not ultimately self-improvement—it is God’s _____ work in us.
- You cannot make yourself _____ apart from God, but God works in us, empowering us to cooperate with Him in our growth.

B. We Are the Participants

- We strive for obedience because God’s grace through the Holy Spirit _____ us, not because guilt drives us.
 - The reason God gave us words like this (Rom. 8:13) in the Scriptures is because we have what we call “_____sin.”
 - The Christian life is not _____; it’s a Spirit-empowered pursuit of holiness.
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IV. SANCTIFICATION INVOLVES PUTTING OFF THE OLD AND PUTTING ON THE NEW

A. Putting Off the Old

- Though sin no longer _____, it still remains.
- Sanctification requires a _____ against sin, the devil, and the flesh. Holiness does not happen by accident.

B. Putting On the New

- Sanctification is not only about what we stop doing—it’s about what we start _____.
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V. SANCTIFICATION IS SHAPED BY THE WORD AND THE SPIRIT

- The Word and the Spirit _____ together in the life of every believer.

A. The Word of God _____

B. The Spirit of God Empowers

- While the Word gives direction, the Spirit gives understanding and _____.
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VI. SANCTIFICATION IS MOTIVATED BY HOPE IN GLORIFICATION

- Knowing that we will one day be like Christ gives us _____ to pursue holiness now.
 - The future hope of glory fuels present _____.
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CONCLUSION

Sanctification is God's _____ work in His people—a partnership between divine grace and human effort.

- It is God's will for your life.
- It is God's _____, empowered by His Spirit.
- It is your calling to daily put off the old and put on the new.
- And it is your _____ that one day, this process will be complete when you see Christ face to face.

Philippians 1:6 – “He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”

Until that day, we strive—not in our strength, but in His—trusting that the same grace that saved us is also sanctifying us.