
Sanctification

Good Word Series

Pastor Winston Perez

Sunday, November 22, 2020

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 (NKJV) *“But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

Ephesians 2:8–9 says, *“For it is by grace you have been saved through faith. It is not from yourself or anything you’ve done, but the gift of God.”*

Sanctification Has Three Aspects

Part 1: Positional Sanctification

Justification: Is when we receive eternal life. Is where Christ imputes His innocence, so that God declares us innocent through Jesus. This is the adoption of us by God. We are positionally holy through Jesus, but our character is still under construction.

Part 2: Progressive Sanctification

Sanctification: The process in which the Holy Spirit forms Jesus in us. It is the process of spiritual maturity, by Jesus setting us apart, and the preparation of the Holy Spirit of making us holy.

Part 3: Ultimate Sanctification

Glorification: Is when we have the full experience eternal life. Where the believer will be transformed into the likeness of Christ and presented to our Lord as holy.

Romans 12:1-2 *“So, here’s what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.”*

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Lev. 20:7 *“Set yourselves apart for a holy life. Live a holy life, because I am GOD, your God. Do what I tell you; live the way I tell you. I am the GOD who makes you holy.”*

I am not what I might be, I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I wish to be, I am not what I hope to be. But I thank God I am not what I once was, and I can say with the great apostle, “By the grace of God I am what I am.”

—John Newton

Philippians 2:12-13 *“Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to **work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.**”*

OBEDIENCE: Obedience is required in order to make the inward manifestation of justification, into the outward manifestation of sanctification.

1. SANCTIFICATION IS A SPECIAL WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Romans 15:16 (NKJV) *“that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.”*

1 Corinthians 6:11 (NKJV) *“And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”*

2. HOLINESS IS PROMISED TO US

Matthew 3:11 (NKJV) *“I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”*

Galatians 5:5 (NKJV) *“For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.”*

3. THE HOLY SPIRIT REQUIRES US TO BE SANCTIFIED

2 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV) *“But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,*

See also 1 Co 6:18–19”

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1 Corinthians 6:18–19 (NKJV) *“Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. 19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”*

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT ENABLES US TO BE SANCTIFIED

Romans 8:4 (NKJV) *“that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”*

Romans 8:13 (NKJV) *“For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.”*

5. THE HOLY SPIRIT PRODUCES SANCTIFICATION

Galatians 5:22–23 (NKJV) *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”*

2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV) *“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”*

6. THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKES US MORE LIKE CHRIST

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV) *“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”*

7. THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS MORTIFY SINFUL HUMAN NATURE

Romans 8:13 (NKJV) *“For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.”*

Galatians 5:17 (NKJV) *“For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.”*

Romans 7:14-25 (MSG) *“I can anticipate the response that is coming: **“I know that all God’s commands are spiritual, but I’m not. Isn’t this also your experience?”** Yes. I’m full of myself—after all, I’ve spent a long time in sin’s prison. What I don’t understand about myself is that I decide one way, but then I act another, doing things I absolutely despise. So, if I can’t be trusted to figure out what is best for myself and then do it, it becomes obvious that God’s command is necessary.*

But I need something more! For if I know the law but still can’t keep it, and if the power of sin within me keeps sabotaging my best intentions, I obviously need help! I realize that I don’t have what it takes. I can, will-it, but I can’t do it. I decide to do good, but I don’t really do it; I decide not to do bad, but then I do it anyway. My

decisions, such as they are, don't result in actions. Something has gone wrong deep within me and gets the better of me every time.

It happens so regularly that it's predictable. The moment I decide to do good, sin is there to trip me up. I truly delight in God's commands, but it's pretty obvious that not all of me joins in that delight. Parts of me covertly rebel, and just when I least expect it, they take charge.

I've tried everything and nothing helps. I'm at the end of my rope. Is there no one who can do anything for me? Isn't that the real question? The answer, thank God, is that Jesus Christ can and does. He acted to set things right in this life of contradictions where I want to serve God with all my heart and mind but am pulled by the influence of sin to do something totally different."

*Justification saves us from the penalty of sin
Sanctification saves us from the power of sin
Glorification saves us from the presence of sin*

*"Set yourselves apart for a holy life.
Live a holy life, because I am GOD, your God.
Do what I tell you; live the way I tell you.
I am the GOD who makes you holy."
Leviticus 20:7 (MSG)*