

Sanctification

Lesson 24

1. SANCTIFICATION is one of the GREAT TRUTHS of the scripture. With the Holy Spirit as our TEACHER let us seek His GUIDANCE in understanding its meaning.
2. Sanctification is divided into THREE different aspects.
 - A. In the PAST with our NEW BIRTH. 1 Cor. 6:11
 - B. In the PRESENT as a DAILY PROCESS. Romans 8:29
 - C. In the FUTURE when we are transformed BODY AND SOUL into the image of Christ. 1 John 3:2
3. There are TWO specific FALSE TEACHINGS regarding sanctification. They are:
 - A. ANTINOMIAN which means that since forgiveness is found in Christ, IT IS OK to do the things that the BIBLE FORBIDS. The more one sins, the more God can show His GRACE. Paul refutes this kind of thinking in Romans 6:1 and 2.
 - B. PERFECTIONISM which means we can arrive at a state of SINLESSNESS in this life. Paul refutes this position in Romans 7:15-25. See also 1 John 1:8
4. Sanctification means to be SET APART for a purpose. The PURPOSE OF GOD.
5. The Old Testament uses sanctify to mean THINGS while the New Testament uses set apart to mean PEOPLE. (This is a general statement. There are times the idea is reversed in the Old and New.)
6. In the PAST God SANCTIFIED us. 1 Corinthians 6:11; 2 Thessalonians 2:14; and 1 Peter 1:2 (Positional Sanctification)
7. TODAY God is in THE PROCESS of sanctifying us. John 17:14-19; Colossians 1:10; 2 Peter 3:18; Romans 12:1 and 2 (Practical Sanctification)
8. Our ULTIMATE SANCTIFICATION comes TOMORROW. We will be PERFECTED in Him. Ephesians 5:27; 1 Thess. 3:12 and 13; 1 Thess. 5:23 and 24; 1 John 3:2
9. We CANNOT be completely sanctified here on earth because our body is IMPERFECT and it is a part of COMPLETE SANCTIFICATION. 1 Thess. 5:23
10. There are FOUR sources of sanctification. The TRINITY and the WORD OF GOD.
11. GOD THE FATHER sanctifies. Jude 1 (KJV reads: "Them that are sanctified by God the Father.")
12. Sanctification is of CHRIST. Hebrews 10:10 and 14; 1 Cor. 6:11

13. The HOLY SPIRIT is active in sanctification. 2 Thess. 2:13; Romans 15:16 and 1 Peter 1:2
14. Sanctification is by the WORD OF GOD. John 17:17; Ephesians 5:26
15. There is to be EVIDENCE of sanctification in the BELIEVER'S LIFE.
16. SAINTS are to SERVE. John 17:20; Matthew 28:18-20; Ephesians 2:10; Hebrews 13:20 & 21
17. Those of us who have been sanctified are to manifest THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT.
Galatians 5:22 and 23
18. Saints must LOVE and be OBEDIENT to the WORD OF GOD. Psalm 119
19. A person who is both SANCTIFIED and BEING sanctified must RESIST the work of SATAN to distract them from the goal. James 4:7 and 8
20. Saints of God should SUBMIT and HUMBLE themselves to Him. James 4:7a, 8a, and 10a
21. Saints should live HOLY LIVES. 1 Peter 1:15

Conclusion

Sanctification is presented in three tenses. The past, present and future. Every born again believer *has already been* sanctified (set apart, dedicated, consecrated, separated), and that sanctification is once and for all. We are *now being* sanctified through the Spirit and the Word. We *shall be* ultimately, wholly, completely sanctified when we meet the Lord Jesus Christ.

Every Christian still has two natures -- the old Adamic, carnal nature and the new spiritual nature (1 Corinthians 3:1-3). The growth of the spiritual comes through a daily dedication, a daily cleansing (1 John 1:9), a daily study of the Word, a constant prayer in the heart. We grow in sanctification -- we can never grow to the point of total sanctification in this life. Every believer is a "saint," a person "set apart" to God. "*Wherefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered without the gate*" (Hebrews 13:12).