

Bible Sanctification

*“Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, even them that are **sanctified** in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place, their Lord and ours”*
(I Cor. 1:1-2)

Introduction:

The greatest blessing God gives man is the opportunity to have their sins removed (cf. Eph. 1:3-7). Sin is the blight that separates one from God (Isa. 59:1-2). God calls upon mankind to receive the remission of their sins and to live Godly in this life (I Pet. 1:15; 5:10). Let us examine I Corinthians 1:1-2 this morning that we may fully understand the state of having our sins forgiven and being sanctified in this world.

I. Defining Sanctification:

- A. *“Sanctify” (hagiazō) = “separate from common condition and use... hallowed; pure, righteous, ceremonially or morally; holy... to separate, consecrate; cleanse, purify, sanctify”* (Moulton 3).
- B. Note that Paul equates the *“church of God”* with the sanctified. Those who are sanctified are *“the church of God.”*
- C. What are the sanctified “separated or cleansed from?”
 - 1. Sin is that which causes one to be morally defiled (i.e., unclean and unholy) (cf. Rev. 3:4). The sanctified are thereby those separated from sin and the world:
 - 2. The Christian will be separate from things the world loves (cf. Eph. 5:3-8).
 - 3. Man’s love for the world is replaced with a love for truth when baptized into Christ (cf. I Jn. 2:15-17).

II. The sanctified are *“in Christ Jesus”*

- A. How does one get “in Christ Jesus” (cf. Gal. 3:27).
- B. Consider the spiritual fellowship of one existing “in Christ Jesus.”
 - 1. Christ lives in me when I abide in “the faith” (Gal. 2:20).
 - 2. The faith is the gospel message of truth (cf. Phil. 1:27).

III. The Sanctified are those who have been *“called to be saints”*

- A. The NT reveals the sanctified to be those who are called (cf. Rom. 1:6-7; Gal. 1:6; Eph. 4:1; Col. 3:15; I Thess. 2:12; 4:7; I Pet. 1:15; 5:10; Rev. 17:14).
- B. The gospel calls men and women to be sanctified (cf. II Thess. 2:13ff).
- C. The Greek word translated sanctified and saints is the same word.

IV. The Sanctified *“call upon the name of the Lord Jesus”*

- A. While the Lord calls man through the gospel man calls upon the Lord in prayer and worship (Ps. 3:2; 6:2; 7:2; Acts 2:21; 9:14, 21; 22:16; Rom. 10:13; I Cor. 1:2; Rom. 10:12; II Tim. 2:22).
- B. The idea is to “invoke” or “appeal to” (LS 292).

Conclusion:

Man’s interest goes through a metamorphosis when becoming a Christian. The reality of heaven and hell motivate one to live godly in this life (Titus 2:11-12). An attitude is thereby developed in relation to right and wrong acts (Rom. 12:9; Eph. 4:26; Jude 1:23). The sanctified saint is never to return to the old sinful ways of their past. Those who love sin will in no way have an inheritance in the kingdom of God and heaven (cf. I Cor. 6:9-11; Gal. 5:19-21).