

# REACHING FREEDOM TOGETHER

## *“Consecration: The Naturalization Process into God’s Kingdom”*

(Ephesians 2:18-22; Romans 12:1-2)

*“For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In Him, you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.”*  
(Ephesians 2:18-22)

### ❖ The Definition of Consecration

To Consecrate something or someone is to DECLARE or prophesy that thing or person as holy and set apart fully devoted to God. It is ‘to anoint’ and declare sacredness.

- I say (or have said) I am unlovable, but God says I am **forever loved**. (Rom 8:38)

*“And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love.” (Romans 8:38)*

- I say I am **weak**, but God says He makes me **strong**. (Psalms 18:32)

*“God arms me with strength, and he makes my way perfect.” (Psalm 18:32)*

- I recognize I am a **sinner**, but God says I am **forgiven**. (1 John 2:12)

*"I am writing to you who are God's children because your sins have been forgiven through Jesus" (1 John 2:12)*

- I was **abandoned**, but God says I am **adopted**. (Ephesians 1:5)

*"God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure" (Ephesians 1:5)*

- I say I am **broken**, but God says He makes me **whole**. (Colossians 2:10)

*"So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority" (Colossians 2:10)*

- I have been **rejected**, but God says I am **His!** (Isaiah 43:1)

*"Do not fear. I have redeemed you. I have summoned you. You are mine" (Isaiah 43:1)*

- I say I am **alone**, but God says He is always **with me**. (Joshua 1:9)

*"...Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9)*

## ❖ The Design of Consecration

A consecrated life is one that is ... Identified with Christ; An Imitation of Christ; and a life that is Inaugurated by the Holy Spirit!

*"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:1-2)*

- Consecration Means Sacrificial Living (Vs 1)
  - Sacrifice Your Body
  - Sacrifice Your Service
- Consecration Means Separated Living (Vs 2)

Do Not be Conformed Any Longer to the Pattern of this World

Paul is confronting a very real problem in the Roman church and in the church of today. There is a problem when the church takes on the character of the world.

Christians are just as likely to be involved in behaviors that mark the world:

\* Selfishness \* Greed \* Malice \* Anger \* Resentment  
\* Pride \* Prejudice \* Slander \* Lust \* Bitterness

- Consecration Means Sanctified Thinking (Vs 2)
  - Sanctified Transformation
  - Sanctified Desire

Paul actively describes God's will in three powerful ways:

- Good - The will of God is useful, joyful and beneficial
- Pleasing - The will of God is welcomed
- Perfect - The will of God is without error and brought to completion