

16 DECLARATIONS OF FAITH OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

IX Sanctification

Sanctification is separating ourselves from evil and dedicating ourselves to God. It is a process that takes place as Christians devote themselves to God

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is your reasonable service.* **2** And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

- Present yourself as a sacrifice
- Do not conform to the world. (all that the world accepts but the Word doesn't)
- Renewing your mind How? Through the Word of God
- This is the (good, acceptable,& perfect) will of God for all believers

1 Thessalonians 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- As we surrender to the Lord, to His Lordship, His will, and His Word He sanctifies us wholly
- Spirit, soul, and body
- Scriptures teach that we are to be holy because God is holy
- **1 Peter 1:13** Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, **(prepare your mind for action)** be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 14 as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; 15 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy." 17 And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; 18 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot
- Holiness is not to be presumed, it is to be pursued
- Holiness is to be intentional and planned.
- Holiness is not perfection is an ongoing pursuit of separating yourself from sin unto the Lord
- For "Without holiness, no one will see the Lord"
- **Hebrews 12:14** Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:

Living in holiness is possible by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- **John 14:** However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth;

A Christian is sanctified by identifying with Christ and accepting His sacrificial death and victorious resurrection by faith. Sanctification is a daily acknowledgment of our union with God through His Son Jesus.

As this identification occurs, it is only natural for the Christian to offer every portion of one's life to the control of the Holy Spirit

Romans 6: 1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? **2** Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? **3** Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness* of His resurrection, **6** knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be [a]done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. **7** For he who has died has been [b]freed from sin. **8** Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, **9** knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. **10** For *the death* that He died, He died to sin once for all; but *the life* that He lives, He lives to God. **11** Likewise you also, [c]reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

What does sanctification look like, our transformation is not only subjective but also objective so what does it look like

Ephesians 4: 25 Therefore, putting away lying, "*Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,*" for we are members of one another. **26** "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, **27** nor give [g]place to the devil. **28** Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with *his* hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. **29** Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary [h]edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. **30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **31** Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. **32** And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

The Significance of this Doctrine:

Salvation is not the end of a Christian's spiritual growth. Although we are declared holy and righteous at salvation, much spiritual growth remains to be experienced. As the believer submits (meekness) to the work of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, they are progressively transformed toward a divine nature, like Christ's. This doctrine is important because too many Christians stop growing spiritually after salvation, or even after entry into a Spirit-filled life at Baptism. But God's design for each believer is that

the fruit of the Spirit **Galatians 5:22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** [g]gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law and the character traits of a Christlike life, become more obvious each day.