

“Stop! In the Name of Love: Purity, Sanctification, and God’s Will”

1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

Part 1 – August 6, 2017

I. Sanctification – 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 4, 7

A. A _____ work of God and _____ that makes believers more and more free from _____, and more like Christ in our actual lives; the process of being _____ from sin and set apart to God’s holiness. In 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8, sexual purity is the first priority in devotion to sanctification and to “excelling still more” (4:1). The extraordinary Christian is sexually pure. Sanctification in this specific context is being set apart to God in purity and set apart from sin in immorality.

B. Three Stages of Sanctification (Systematic Theology by Wayne Grudem)

1. Sanctification Has A Definite _____ at Regeneration.

Titus 3:5; 1 John 3:9; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Acts 20:32; Romans 6:11, 14

- a. The initial step in sanctification involves a definite break from the _____ and love of sin, so that the believer is no longer dominated by sin and no longer loves to sin.
- b. “You must ***consider*** yourselves dead to sin” – Romans 6
“consider” = reckon, take an _____, estimate, conclude, reason, impute, calculate; to put on one’s account”
= We must BELIEVE that what God says in His Word in true in our lives. There must be proper “mental accounting.”
“To consider” is not a promise; it is acting on a FACT.
- c. The fact that we are saved by grace does not give us an _____ to _____, but a reason to _____.

Three Sanctification Truths in Romans 6:14-23

- a. _____ in 6:14-15
- b. _____ in 6:16-20
- c. _____ in 6:21-23

The Master-Slave-Wage relationship is important to understand.
1 John 5:16-17 (See also 1 Corinthians 11:30)

Stage 1 Sanctification at Regeneration involves a reorientation, reconfiguring, realigning, redirecting of desires, so that love for sin is no longer dominant in the Christian's life.

- 2. Sanctification _____ Throughout Life – Stage 2
Romans 6:12-13, 19; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Philippians 3:13-14

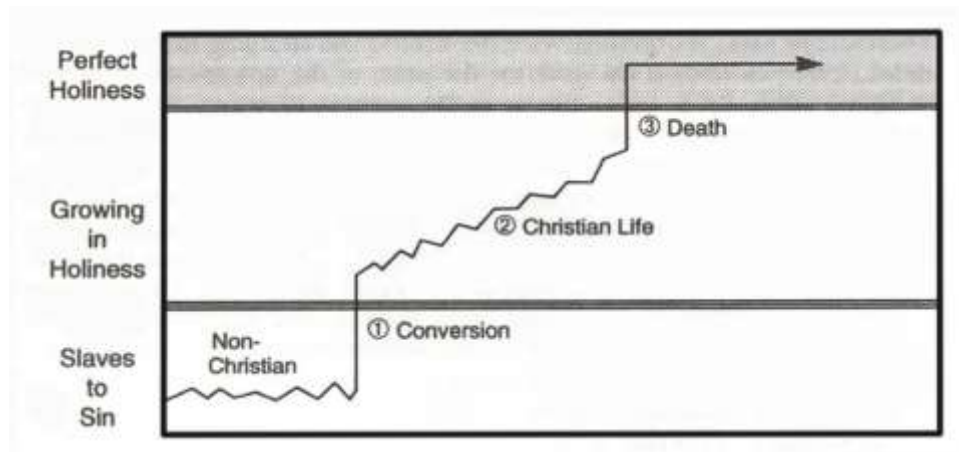
God's Goal for Your Life: You become more and more like _____ as you _____ in your Christian life = Progressive Sanctification.

- 3. Stage 3 Sanctification – Come back next week!!!

Why did Jesus tell people to “go and sin no more” if sinlessness in this earthly life is impossible?

A. John 5:1-15

B. John 8:3-11



“STOP! IN THE NAME OF LOVE”

1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

Part 1

“User’s Guide”



SANCTIFICATION

"A progressive work of God and man that makes believers more and more free from sin and more like Christ in our actual lives; the process of being separated from sin and set apart to God's holiness.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

In this letter, the context alerts us that sexual purity is the first priority in devotion to sanctification and to “excelling still more” (4:1). The extraordinary Christian is sexually pure: separated apart from immorality.

JUSTIFICATION

Legal standing before God

Once for all time

Entirely God's work

Perfect in this life

Same in all Christians

SANTIFICATION

Internal condition

Continuous throughout life

We cooperate with Holy Spirit

Not perfect in this life

Greater in some than others

SANTIFICATION

$$1 + 1 = 1!$$

Must be set apart TO God

Must be set apart FROM sin

The great “Put Off-Put On” Principle

Stage 1

Sanctification has a definite *beginning* at regeneration.

The initial first stage is a definite break from the *ruling power* of sin.

Have You “Considered?”

“Consider” yourself dead to sin”

= “to reckon, take an *inventory*,
estimate, conclude, reason, impute,
calculate; to put on one’s account”

SANCTIFICATION

The fact that we are saved by grace does not give us an *excuse* to *sin*, but it does give us a reason to *obey*.

Romans 6:14-23

Favor

6:14-15

Freedom

6:16-20

Fruit

6:21-23