

Our Identity in Christ – We are Sanctified

Teacher: Reverend Paul Giles

We are to grow out of who we were until we grow into what God wants us to be. How do we know what that is? Read the Word.

We can ask God, “What should I do?” When you are sanctified, you can ask.

Romans 6:16-19

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

...unto holiness (*hagiasmos* (G38) – sanctification, purity, purification – contaminants have been removed) Sanctification is thus the state predetermined by God for believers.

Metaphor -love of God is like water surrounding you.

We are in the world but are not of the world.

Purified like silver as in Psalms 12:6

The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

Contaminants are removed by the repetitive process of heating, skimming of the “dross” cooling and repeating this process seven times. This is how we live set apart, holy, the contaminants (sin) have been removed

John 17:13-16

And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

I have given them my word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

Repeated several times: not of the world. People of the world will hate you when you live the Word. Don't be shocked by it. We have jobs to do as sons and daughters of God with all power.

Sanctified by truth, believing and acting on the Word is what sets us apart. Put it on in your mind and live it.

17:17

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Set apart through God's Word

Romans –shows us the foundation for our walk. Without understanding of Romans, we won't understand other epistles. It's our foundation, JESUS CHRIST raised from the dead, that sanctified him fully.

Romans 1:3-4

Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;

And declared *to be* the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

Holiness - *hagiosune*(G42) the quality of holiness

...by the resurrection

The resurrection set Christ apart – we partake of that.

Romans 6:3

Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

Christ died for us – we partake of that – part of our identity with Christ

6:4

Therefore we are (*were*) buried with him by baptism unto death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Walk in newness of life

Spiritually we received Christ's ability – we can do.

This contrast lives in us. Baptized in JESUS CHRIST death is part of our identify. Now we can walk in newness of life. We have the ability to do, now just do? We have Christ's ability! The faith of JESUS CHRIST, his ability to do, perform, believe, and more.

6:20-22

For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.

What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? For the end of those things *is* death.

But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

We have the victory.

Holiness – *hagiasmos* (G38)– sanctification, purification.

Righteousness means right living. The fruit or profit, end of those things is death. Fruit unto holiness and the end is everlasting life.

6:23

For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through (*in*) Jesus Christ (*Christ Jesus*) our Lord.

...but the gift of God (we got with the new birth) = eternal life

Define yourself as a son of God – no matter what your occupation, position. Those earthly things do not define you. You have the spirit of God in you. You are what the Word says you are. What is important in your life? What do you fight for? What defines you? You will receive rewards in eternity because of the spiritual fruit you produce in your sanctified life.

I Corinthians 1:30

But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

Not only are we given all that Christ is, we are in him. We have free will. God won't force us. You love someone because you get to know them.

...is made (begin to be) unto us: wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, redemption

We love someone (including God) because we get to know them.

Need our vision set on God and His Word to see Him meeting our needs, or we will miss it. Listen – God will tell you, warn you.

What works for you? Just do it. What do we do day by day. Instead of rushing into the day, pause, Father will tell you what to do, how to do it to warn you and more. He wants to help us, He wants what best for us.

I Thessalonians 4:3

For this is the will of God, *even* your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication.

God's will for us is that we live sanctified.

“fornication” here is spiritual – putting anything before God, - idolatry.

(Deuteronomy 6:4 – Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God *is* one Lord:)

II Thessalonians 2:13

But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth.

We were chosen to salvation through sanctification. We didn't choose Him.

God just loves us – we don't have to work at it. Love Him back and things will happen.

Ephesians 1:4

According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

We should be Holy- *hagios* (G40) consecrated ceremonially, sacred, pure, blameless, saint. God chose us before the foundation of the world.

Staying thankful to God no matter what is happening around you is the key. Your life may suck. Like we were, after Irma, without power, isolated, in some people homeless and vulnerable. When you can find things to be thankful for. For us, we had water to bathe, we had friends to help us clean up. we had a community working together to bring back power, and clear roads. (Three weeks since Irma hit and we are still cleaning up plant material!)

Part of living sanctified is the spiritual competition.

Matthew 4:5

Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

“holy” root: *hagios* – sacred, pinnacle of competition. The body is weak, dying, fatigued, and he, Jesus Christ, is face to face with the devil. Jesus Christ spoke the Word to the devil.

Keep in mind we are in a spiritual competition. Our focus should be on spiritual problems, not people. We should be asking the question, “What aspect of the spiritual realm is attaching you through this person or this situation?”

Need to work on our sanctification and our spiritual walk daily. We might think of our spiritual walk like caring for a Bonsai tree. Bonsai trees are groomed often from roots to shoots. Roots are not allowed to rot, appropriate watering is necessary. New shoots are fashioned in a manner to give the tree its shape and harmony. The complete tree needs daily observation and care. As a Bonsai tree, so does our spiritual walk need daily care. Here are five keys we can use to nurture our spiritual walk.

Five keys:

1. Take time to build Word in our minds
2. Pray much
3. Fellowship with likeminded believers
4. Give out of the abundance of our hearts
5. Speak Word when appropriate, not just to others but to self

How to be miserable? Think only of self and own needs exclusively. Focus on self. OR we can take care of our self but then move out to serve others where twice is joy, in giving, more bless to give than to receive. Remember you life before you had the Word? How clueless were you?

References used for this review were:

Douglas, J.D., Hillyer, N., Wood, D. R. W., Eds. 1996. *New Bible Dictionary*, 3rd Ed. Greek Dictionary. England: Inter-Varsity Press.

Strong, J. 2001. *The New Strong's Expanded Dictionary of Bible Words*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Edison Publishers.

Thayer, J. H. 5th printing 2002. *Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. Peabody: MA: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc.