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Sanctification Pt 1 We are sanctified by the Spirit of God and by the word of God

This is our first teaching on the topic of sanctification. We establish three points –(i). Christ is made unto Christians righteousness and sanctification and redemption, (ii) The will of the Lord is our sanctification– walk ye in it, and (iii) God has chosen you from the beginning to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief in the truth.

It is from our search of the scriptures that we establish our three points–

1. Christ is made unto Christians righteousness and sanctification and redemption

“But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption” (1 Cor.1: 30).

2. The will of the Lord is our sanctification– walk ye in it.

“Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.[3] For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication” (1Thes 4:1, 3).

3. God has chosen you from the beginning to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief in the truth

“But we are bound to give thanks alway 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” (2 Thes.2: 13).

Illustration

The holiness doctrine requires a Christian to be holy (sinless) to be saved. Denominations include– Christian Holiness partnership, Global Wesleyan Alliance, Holiness unto the Lord, Wesleyan Holiness Consortium and World Gospel Mission.

Questions of the scriptures

- i) Is perfection the daily fruit of a saved person (a Christian)?
- ii) What methods of sanctification, perfecting holiness– do the scriptures outline?

Answers from the scriptures

i) NO! There are many scriptures which attest to the early church being called to cleanse themselves from all filthiness of the flesh– 2Cor 7:1– “Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God”.See also 1 Cor.5: 1, & 5.

ii) The scriptures outline God’s ways to sanctify His children–

- a) The Spirit reproves us– Jn 16:8, such that when we sin we are convicted.
- b) The Father chastens us to be partakers of his holiness– Heb 12:10 For they verily for a few days chastened [us] after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. He “dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?” (Heb 12:7).
- c) the word of God– corrects us (2Tim.3: 16), and sanctifies us (Jn 17:17– “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth”).

Let us therefore, honour the Lord, walking daily in the Spirit’s power, being sanctified by the word of God, by the Holy Spirit, and receiving His correction, for this is your sanctification– ye are called not unto uncleanness, but unto holiness!