

To Glorify and Enjoy God

LESSON 18: GLORIFYING & ENJOYING GOD IN SANCTIFICATION

Intro:

Lutherans: sanctification is often called _____ into your justification
(_____ called this cheap grace).

Wesleyans: sanctification is receiving the second blessing of _____.

Reformed Arminians: _____ justification & sanctification so you can be saved but not sanctified (easy _____)

WSC Q 35: What is sanctification?

Answer: Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

For me one of the key points is “renewed in the whole man after the image of God”.

BIG IDEA: We glorify God for _____ us _____ like Christ.

The Larger Catechism builds upon this a bit
WLC Q. 75 What is sanctification?

A. Sanctification is a work of God's grace, whereby they whom God has, before the foundation of the world, chosen to be holy, are in time, through the powerful operation of his Spirit applying the death and resurrection of Christ unto them, renewed in their whole man after the image of God; having the seeds of repentance unto life, and all other saving graces, put into their hearts, and those graces so stirred up, increased, and strengthened, as that they more and more die unto sin, and rise unto newness of life.

- The catechisms indicate this is a _____, not an act, implying a _____ not declaration.
- Like justification & adoption it is a result of God's free _____ to sinners.
- Sanctification is an _____ blessing that comes to us because of Christ.

The Confession of Faith, as usual, takes it deeper.

1. They, who are once effectually called, and regenerated, having a new heart, and a new spirit created in them, are further sanctified, really and personally, through the virtue of Christ's death and resurrection, by his Word and Spirit dwelling in them: the dominion of the whole body of sin is destroyed, and the several lusts thereof are more and more weakened and mortified; and they more and more quickened and strengthened in all saving graces, to the practice of true holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

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- Sanctification is for those who are effectually _____ & _____.
- Rome does not declare you _____ until you've been _____.
- A new _____ & _____ are necessary for sanctification.
- We are initially sanctified, or set apart, in regeneration: _____ sanctification.
- In view here is _____ sanctification: "further sanctified, really and personally."
- The death & resurrection of Christ are _____ to us by the Word & indwelling Spirit.
- The indwelling _____ works in accordance & through the _____.
- The _____ of Christ is for our putting to death of _____: mortification.
- The resurrection of Christ is for our living a new life in Christ, or _____.
- No longer under the _____ of sin. We don't have to sin!
- Sanctification is the _____ of our _____ so we do sin less.
- Sanctification is the _____ of all saving graces so we grow in obedience.
- Obedience grows in the _____ of the saving _____, and nowhere else.
- Sanctification is the necessary practice of true holiness due to _____.
- It is necessary as _____ of having been _____ & justified.

"Not only is holiness the goal of your redemption, it is necessary for your redemption." **Kevin DeYoung**¹⁶⁹

"Initial sanctification is the same as regeneration ... In initial sanctification, a principle of spiritual life is implanted... the same work which is begun in regeneration is carried on in sanctification, until the new creature attains to the full stature of a perfect man in Christ." **Robert Shaw**¹⁷⁰

"Why, then, are we justified by faith? Because by faith we grasp Christ's righteousness, by which alone we are reconciled to God. Yet you could not grasp this without at the same time grasping sanctification also. ... These benefits are joined together by an everlasting and indissoluble bond, so that those whom he illumines by his wisdom he redeems; those whom he redeems, he justifies; those whom he justifies, he sanctifies." **John Calvin**¹⁷¹

³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6

¹⁴ Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

Hebrews 12

¹⁶⁹ DeYoung, Kevin. *The Hole in Our Holiness*. Wheaton, Crossway Books. 2012, pp. 26.

¹⁷⁰ Shaw, pp. 143.

¹⁷¹ Quoted by Hoekema, pp. 177.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. **Philippians 2**

- Paul: the Philippians _____ but could obey more perfectly or consistently.
- Called them to _____ (not earn) their salvation with fear & trembling.
- Sanctification: God who _____ in us. It is not simply my work or _____.
- Without His work in us, we will not _____ and _____ for his good pleasure.
- You _____ & _____ : you are not _____ in sanctification.
- There is no place for passivity or _____ : let _____ and let _____.
- Called to _____ & _____, not simply one or the other.

Sanctification: _____ works → _____ will & work → Growth in holiness

“Sanctification follows justification necessarily, inevitably, and immediately.” **R.C. Sproul**¹⁷²
“It is not that regeneration is God’s work, and then the rest of the Christian life is out work. No, the whole process of sanctification is a joint effort.” **R.C. Sproul**¹⁷³

WLC Q. 78: Whence arises the imperfection of sanctification in believers?

A: The imperfection of sanctification in believers arises from the remnants of sin abiding in every part of them, and the perpetual lustings of the flesh against the spirit; whereby they are often foiled with temptations, and fall into many sins, are hindered in all their spiritual services, and their best works are imperfect and defiled in the sight of God.

2. This sanctification is throughout, in the whole man; yet imperfect in this life, there abiding still some remnants of corruption in every part; whence arises a continual and irreconcilable war, the flesh lusting against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh.

- _____ affects every part of us: regeneration & _____ do too.
- Our minds, _____ and _____ are being sanctified in this life.
- But this sanctification is imperfect in this life, opposed to any notion of perfectionism.
- We often experience this as a _____ and irreconcilable _____.
- The flesh & Spirit continually _____ one another.
- An _____-realized eschatology: remaining in sin’s _____.
- An _____-realized eschatology: free from the presence & _____ of sin.

¹⁷² Sproul, Vol. 2, pp. 79.

¹⁷³ Sproul, Vol. 2, pp. 92.

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- We experience _____ arising from that remnant of _____.
- We also fall into many _____ as a result of those many _____.
- This means we are _____ in personal devotion & _____.

“Every real Christian will certainly aspire after perfection; but none can attain to absolute perfection in this life.” **Robert Shaw**¹⁷⁴

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? **Romans 7**

- “Law” here is _____. Regenerate people delight in the law of God as _____.
- There is a _____ remaining within our hearts waging war against this _____.
- It seeks to make me captive to the principle of sin to _____ the lusts still there.
- At times we really can _____ due to our wretchedness: _____ to sin!
- We can feel utterly _____ & hopeless so we _____ everything on Jesus.

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. **Galatians 5**

- If we _____ (guided & empowered) by the Spirit we won't _____ the flesh.
- We still have fleshly desires, but we will put them to _____ by the Spirit.
- But the lusts of the flesh _____ to _____ the work of the Spirit.
- We often _____ to do right, but discover that we fail. The _____ is real!
- Ephesians & Colossians: taking off & putting on _____ & their practices.
- Romans 12: transformed by the _____ of our minds.

“It hence necessarily follows that the tendencies graciously implanted and sustained must come in conflict with the tendencies to evil which remain.” **A.A. Hodge**¹⁷⁵

“By ‘the flesh’ Paul here means the inclination that is still in us to rebel against God’s will. Whatever we may call this tendency (‘indwelling sin,’ ‘remnants of corruption,’ ‘vestiges of sin,’

¹⁷⁴ Shaw, pp. 144.

¹⁷⁵ Hodge, pp. 197.

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or ‘my sinful nature’), we must remember that even after we have been regenerated we still have such sinful impulses, and must still fight against them as long as we live.” **Anthony Hoekema**¹⁷⁶

3. In which war, although the remaining corruption, for a time, may much prevail; yet, through the continual supply of strength from the sanctifying Spirit of Christ, the regenerate part does overcome; and so, the saints grow in grace, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

- Our battle with sin often experiences _____. Sin can _____.
- “for a time” is very _____. There is no quick _____ for sin.
- It “may much prevail” which implies _____ struggles as we work our salvation out.
- BUT Christ _____ through the Spirit to sanctify us.
- Hoekema notes that sanctification happens as we grow in our _____ with Christ.
- The regenerate part of us will _____ & we _____ in grace.

“Sanctification, therefore, will be marked by penitence more than perfection.” **Kevin DeYoung**¹⁷⁷

“The godly person has deep roots that are substantively planted, bringing forth fruit because those roots are being nurtured and nourished every moment by drinking deeply of the law of God.” **R.C. Sproul**¹⁷⁸

WLC Q 77: Wherein do justification and sanctification differ?

A: Although sanctification be inseparably join with justification, yet they differ, in that God in justification imputes the righteousness of Christ; in sanctification his Spirit infuses grace, and enables to the exercise thereof; in the former, sin is pardoned; in the other, it is subdued: the one does equally free all believers from the revenging wrath of God, and that perfectly in this life, that they never fall into condemnation; the other is neither equal in all, nor in this life perfect in any, but growing up to perfection.

- We receive both justification and sanctification in our _____ with Christ.
- They are inseparably _____ but they are _____ and distinguishable.
- Justification is the _____ of righteousness.
- Sanctification is the _____ of grace.
- Justification is being _____ righteous.
- Sanctification is being _____ righteous.
- Justification includes the _____ of sin.

¹⁷⁶ Hoekema, pp. 213.

¹⁷⁷ DeYoung, pp. 139.

¹⁷⁸ Sproul, Vol. 2, pp. 99.

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- Sanctification is the _____ of sin.
- All Christians have the same _____ of justification.
- Christians _____, in this life, in the measure of sanctification.

How does the doctrine of sanctification, or the process of sanctification, help you to glorify and enjoy God?

Conclusion: