

The Good News of the Gospel Part 5

[9]

-Sanctification, Victory & Holiness-

***Stop** – Important to do Lesson part 4 first

**Remember to pray for wisdom before you begin*

- 1.) First of all, what does the word “sanctify” mean? **Genesis 2:3** And God _____ the seventh day, and _____ it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made. **2Timothy 2:21** If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, _____, and meet for the master's _____, and _____ unto every good work. **NOTE: In the use of the word “sanctify” in the above 1st verse, it means “to set apart for a holy use.” God set apart this day for a special use and purpose. When we are justified, God also sanctifies us to set us apart for a special purpose.**

- 2.) Who does the work of sanctifying? **Ezekiel 20:12** Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might _____ that I am the _____ that _____ them. **Exodus 31:13** Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may _____ that I am the LORD that doth _____ you. **Exodus 40:10** And thou shalt _____ the altar of the burnt offering, and all his vessels, and _____ the altar: and it shall be an altar most _____. **11** And thou shalt _____ the laver and his foot, and _____ it. **NOTE: We can see from the verses above that it is God who does the sanctifying. Each part of the process of salvation is God’s work. It is true that we are to cooperate with Him in the process, but our part is to believe, respond, surrender and place our will on His side, but He does the supernatural work of first setting us aside for a special use and transforming and changing us. There is no merit or earning of salvation in this aspect of salvation. It is still a gift of salvation. God gets all the glory!**

- 3.) What passage of scripture is a good example of Who does the sanctifying and cleansing and how He does the remarkable change and transformation that takes place? **1Corinthians 6:9** Know ye not that the _____ shall not _____ the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, **10** Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the _____ of _____. **11** And such _____ some of you: but ye are _____, but ye are _____, but ye are _____ in the name of the Lord _____, and by the _____ of our God. **NOTE: When we are justified and washed, we are also set apart for a holy use. God sees not the filthy garments of sin but the pure garment of the righteousness of Christ. The thief on the cross was justified and sanctified. When the legs of the thieves were broken, the repentant thief was already a changed man! He could have called down curses upon his**

tormentors, but there is no record of that. The work of sanctification was already doing its work of making him into a new person in Christ. So far, what we've been looking at is the first aspect of sanctification – "sanctification declared." Shortly we will look at the "on-going experience of sanctification" where day-by-day throughout our life-span on this earth we will be changed more and more into the likeness of Christ as we allow Him to transform and change us in life and character.

- 4.) Is Sanctification also a growing experience? Proverbs 4:18 *But the path of the just is as the shining _____, that shineth _____ and _____ unto the _____ day. NOTE: We can be thankful that God doesn't leave us right where we are at when we become born-again. As we learn new light or truth, we leave off old habits and any sins we become aware of. By God's grace we grow more and more into His likeness.*
- 5.) Since justification and forgiveness of sin is by faith, what about sanctification? Is it a work that we must do or is it by faith as well? [Below verse is Jesus speaking to Paul] Acts 26:18 *To open their eyes, and to _____ them _____ darkness to light, and from the power of Satan _____ God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are _____ by _____ that is in Me. Hebrews 10:38 Now the just shall _____ by _____: but if any man _____ back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. NOTE: It is true we must cooperate with the LORD in putting away sin and growing up in Him, but it is still a work that is wrought by faith. We must believe Jesus will enable and empower us to be overcomers!*
- 6.) Are young or "baby" Christians expected to grow in their Christian walk to maturity? 1Peter 2:2 *As _____ babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may _____ thereby: Ephesians 4:15 But speaking the _____ in love, may _____ into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: NOTE: If a baby didn't do any growing after a period of time, we would get worried. We expect them to mature and not stay where they are at. And in order to grow they must partake of the healthful nourishment of milk, then eventually healthy solid food. This food is the Word of God.*
- 7.) How important is the partaking of God's Word in the process of Sanctification? John 17:17 *_____ them through thy _____: thy _____ is truth. Ephesians 5:26 That he might _____ and cleanse it with the washing of water by the _____, NOTE: As we have seen in a previous study, God's law and His Word which expounds greatly on His law, reveals the instruction on how to live and grow as a follower of Christ. And through the power of the Holy Spirit, there is power in the Word of God!*
- 8.) Who is the main agent Who brings about the change in our characters and helps us to grow? 2Corinthians 3:18 *But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are _____ into the _____ image from glory to glory, even as by the _____ of the _____.* Romans 15:16 *That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the*

Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being _____ by the _____. **1Peter 1:2** Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through _____ of the _____, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: _____ unto you, and peace, be multiplied. **NOTE: Jesus dwells in us by the power of the Holy Spirit. How that works is a mystery that none fully understand. But the Holy Spirit brings about the transformation of the heart and brings about changes in our character. It is a law of the mind that what we continually behold will bring about change to what we are beholding.**

9.) What did the Apostle Paul have to do every day at the beginning of the day? 1

Corinthians 15:31 I _____ daily. **Galatians 2:20** I am _____ with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but _____ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the _____ I live by the _____ of the Son of God, who loved me, and _____ himself for me. **NOTE: Paul had to die daily to his old sinful nature. He would not allow his old nature to dominate his life for that day. By faith, he would say "yes" to Jesus and "no" to his selfish nature. At the beginning of each day, this is what we must do! We must resolutely place our wills on the side of Christ and let Him live in our hearts by faith! Victory is certain -if we follow this practice consistently each day of our life!**

10.) What is the great mystery of Godliness and how is it displayed in God's children?

Colossians 1:26 Even the _____ which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is _____ to his saints: **27** To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this _____ among the Gentiles; which is _____ in _____, the hope of glory. **NOTE: Yes, a mystery that God's children can have Jesus living and abiding in their body temple or sanctuary where they can be transformed into His likeness. Yes, a mystery because so few are willing to have this experience on a consistent day by day basis!**

11.) Knowing that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit, why is it important that we abstain from idols and fornication or other sins of the flesh? 1Thessalonians 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your _____, that ye should abstain from _____: **4**

That every one of you should know _____ to possess his _____ in _____ and honour; **2Corinthians 6:16** And what agreement hath the _____ of God with _____? for ye are the _____ of the living God; as God hath said, I will _____ them, and walk _____ them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. **NOTE: Sexual sins and unlawful appetite whether it be gluttony, drug use or even an idol or passion that supersedes God in our life will defile our body temple so that He is unable to abide there. We simply cannot afford to have Jesus' presence absent from our hearts!**

12.) Not only does the LORD want to cleanse sin and bad habits out of our lives, but He wants to place the beautiful graces and fruit of the Spirit in our lives. How is this described by Jesus in John 15:1 I am the true _____, and my Father is the husbandman. **2**

Every branch in me that beareth not _____ he taketh _____: and every branch that beareth fruit, he _____ it, that it may bring forth more _____. **3** Now ye are _____ through the _____ which I have spoken unto you. **4** _____ in me, and I _____ you. As the branch cannot _____ fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye _____ in me. **5** I am the vine, ye are the _____: He that abideth in me, and I _____ him, the same bringeth forth _____ fruit: for without me ye can do _____. **NOTE: Part of the process of sanctification or being transformed and made holy is abiding in Christ through continual communion with Him in unceasing prayer and partaking of His Word and being wide awake to hearing His still small voice through the Holy Spirit. [See next lesson on "The Christian's Devotional Life"] When this kind of connection with Jesus takes place, we can expect great changes in our character building!**

13.) What is the Fruit of the Spirit that God wants to produce in our lives? Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, **23** _____, _____: against such there is no law **24** And they that are Christ's have crucified the _____ with the affections and _____. **25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also _____ in the _____. **NOTE: The Bible is so clear everywhere that God wants to save us from sin, to purify us from iniquity and evil and to take away our stony hearts of selfishness. Just taking us to heaven and giving us eternal life is NOT the main purpose of salvation! Without removing sin and lawlessness from the hearts and characters of His repentant children, there would be no heaven to enjoy, because it is righteousness that makes eternal life happy and livable! Sin means misery, sorrow and ultimately destruction! True Biblical salvation means the complete recovery from sin and evil and ultimately from its results and presence.**

14.) Are trials, challenges and rough experiences sometimes needful for the development of Christian character? Hebrews 12:9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which _____ us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in _____ unto the Father of spirits, and live? **10** For they verily for a few days _____ us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be _____ of His holiness. **11** Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but _____: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of _____ unto them which are exercised thereby. **NOTE: Discipline is a must in a well-ordered family. Children need to know there are rules and regulations to keep them within the boundary of a safe and happy home. When they disobey then the proper discipline or "chastening" is to be administered so that they follow the right path that leads to happiness and success. So it is with the Christian; sometimes the LORD allows misfortunes, frustrations, troubles and even sometimes tragedies to either wake us up spiritually or develop the graces of character we need. Often trials make us better and stronger in our Christian walk. God can develop many wonderful traits in our character if we patiently endure the discipline!**

15.) Is it possible to maybe prevent some trials or misfortunes that come upon us if we humbled and searched our hearts to see what unknown sins or character flaws might be in our lives? **1Corinthians 11:31** For if we would judge _____, we should not be _____. **32** But when we are judged, we are _____ of the Lord, that we should not be _____ with the world. **NOTE: We may just very well save ourselves from going through some painful, unpleasant trials if we would examine our own hearts and characters to see what needs to be changed or altered. This will take some humbling of our heart to first admit we have some problems and that we need to deny or change certain habits or behavior on our part. But we might save ourselves from having to learn the hard way!**

16.) Where else in Scripture do we see the need of heart examination so that we can know where we stand with God and make the necessary changes we need? **Psalm 26:2** _____ me, O LORD, and _____ me; try my reins and my _____. **Psalm 139:23** _____ me, O God, and _____ my heart: try me, and know my _____: **24** And _____ if there be any _____ way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. **2Corinthians 13:5** _____ yourselves, _____ ye be in the faith; _____ your own selves. Know ye not your own _____, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? **NOTE: Part of the Christian growth process is checking our own lives and seeing where we stand with our Creator and Redeemer and then making whatever adjustments or changes we need to make as well as adding extra virtues to our religious experience. Even in all of this we need the powerful working of free grace on our hearts to accomplish this.**

17.) Does God expect us to have complete victory over sin in our lives? **Jude 1:24** Now unto him that is able to keep you from _____, and to present you _____ before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, **1Thessalonians 5:23** And the very God of peace sanctify you _____; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved _____ unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **NOTE: What is the whole purpose of the plan of salvation? Isn't it to rescue us from sin and all its horrible consequences! First of all, because we have all sinned, the penalty had to be paid for those sins and Jesus was the One who did that. And since sin caused the Son of God to suffer in our behalf, a plan needed to be installed to remove and eradicate the menace of sin from our hearts and characters so that it won't continue to destroy us. Biblical salvation is more, much more than Jesus dying on the cross for our sins. It encompasses our COMPLETE RECOVERY from sin ultimately once and for all! And God's Word lays it all out for us.**

18.) Many professed Christians don't like the word "perfect" when it comes to the ultimate goal in the Christian's character growth experience. But what does God's Word have to say about this word and what God says is possible? **Matthew 5:48** Be ye therefore _____, even _____ your Father which is in heaven is _____. **Luke 6:40** The disciple is _____ above his master: but every one that is _____ shall be _____ his master. **2Timothy**

3:17 That the man of God may be _____, thoroughly furnished unto _____ good works. **Hebrews 13:21** Make you _____ in every good work to do his _____, working in you that which is _____ in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. **NOTE: Perfection of character is plainly taught in scripture; but we're not talking about the "absolute perfection" that only God possesses. This is a perfection where in our human sphere we fully reflect the lovely character of Jesus and our constant, consistent desire is to follow Jesus all the way and we are fully imbued with His Spirit and we have gained the victory over every wrong habit and attitude. We are following every moral principle that we know with a consistent love for others and an abiding love for our Savior. Sin no longer has dominion over us, and, in fact we hate it! It becomes a pleasure to serve and be a blessing to others! We have a perfect ongoing surrender to God. This experience can be ours for the asking if we are willing to make that total commitment to the LORD!**

19.) Is the life and character of Jesus to be our example to follow and imitate? 1Peter 2:21 For even hereunto were ye _____: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an _____, that ye should _____ his steps: **22** Who did _____ sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: **Revelation 3:21** To him that _____ will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even _____ I also _____, and am set down with my Father in his throne. **2Corinthians 4:10b** . . . that the _____ also of Jesus might be made _____ in our _____.

20.) What is more powerful -our sinful nature or God's power in our lives? Philipians 4:13 / can do _____ things through Christ which _____ me. **Mark 9:23** Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, _____ things are _____ to him that _____. **Ephesians 3:20** Now unto him that is _____ to do _____ all that we ask or _____, according to the power that worketh in us,

21.) Will God have an end-time remnant group of people who will be through with sin and display the character of Jesus fully? Zephaniah 3:13 The _____ of Israel shall not do _____, nor speak _____; neither shall a _____ tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid. **Ephesians 5:27** That he might present it to himself a glorious church, _____ having spot, or wrinkle, or _____ such thing; but that it should be holy and without _____. **Revelation 14:4** These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which _____ the Lamb _____ he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. **5** And in their mouth was found no _____: for they are _____ fault before the throne of God. **NOTE: In the book of Revelation, God has given us a little window on this very special generation of people who will reflect the character of Jesus, not just a few here and there; but a whole class of people taken from all kindreds and tongues that have allowed Jesus to fully reign in their hearts. This special group are the 144,000 -probably a symbolic number that God**

will display as evidence that a whole large populace of people was willing to say “NO” to sin and “YES” to Jesus and His principles of righteousness. Would you like to be a part of this special end-time people. Continue with this series of lessons and you will obtain the keys that will enable you to be ready to join this special end-time group of Christians!

Brief Quiz

CIRCLE ONE

- 1.) True/False** – It is God’s power at work to bring about changes in the characters of men and women.
- 2.) True/False** – “To set apart for a holy use,” is the definition of the word “sanctification” and is the first aspect of what this word entails (see # 1 and 2).
- 3.) True/False** – Sanctification is a gift of God just as much as justification.
- 4.) True/False** – Sanctification unlike justification is accomplished by our efforts without faith.
- 5.) True/False** – The trials and troubles of life help to shape our characters for the better if we allow them.
- 6.) True/False** – Daily death to self is important to gain victory over sin.
- 7.) True/False** – We should daily partake of God’s word and let Jesus dwell in our hearts by faith.
- 8.) True/False** – The Bible says we shouldn’t waste our time in perfecting our characters.
- 9.) True/False** – Our sinful traits and habits are sometimes too big for God’s power to subdue.

My Response

I desire for God to set me apart as a holy vessel for bringing honor and glory to Him. I want Him to sanctify me and change me more and more into His image and to be a part of His great showcase that reveals to the world and the universe of how a sinner can become wholly transformed by the grace of God!

Signed _____