

28 – SALVATION - PART 4

I. What is It?

- Sanctification is a progressive work of God and man.
- Sanctification makes believers more and more free from sin.
- Sanctification makes believers like Christ in their actual lives.

II. Stages of Sanctification

A. Regeneration

- Regeneration is the imputation of the divine life or new nature to the believer.

Scripture 2 Peter 1:4 (ESV)

by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

- This new life affects the believer's intellect, will and emotions.
- Regeneration is brought about by the will of God.

Scripture James 1:18 (ESV)

Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

- Regeneration is brought about by the word of God.
- Regeneration is brought about by the death and resurrection of Christ.

Scripture 1 Peter 1:3 (ESV)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

- Regeneration is brought about as God uses people in our lives.

Scripture Romans 10:14 (ESV)

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

B. Throughout a Believer's Life

- This is known as Progressive Sanctification.
- Believers are in the process of continually being renewed.

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Scripture Colossians 3:10 (ESV)

and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

Scripture Philippians 2:12-13 (ESV)

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

C. At Death

- The believer's sanctification will never be completed in this life.

Scripture Revelation 21:27 (ESV)

But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

III. Roles in Sanctification

- Sanctification is primarily a work of God.

Scripture 1 Thessalonians 5:23 (ESV)

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- On the believer's part, sanctification is both passive and active.
- It is passive in that a believer must trust God and pray that he would sanctify him.

Scripture Romans 6:13 (ESV)

Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

- It is active in that the believer must change with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Scripture Romans 8:13 (ESV)

For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.