

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 55

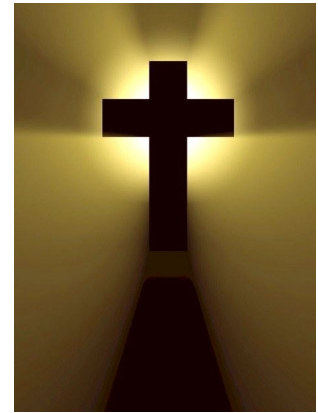
The Giver of Spiritual Gifts...the Holy Spirit
The Baptism of God the Holy Spirit
Part 6
Sanctification



September, 2011

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sin of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. *(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved."* *(John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave us One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*



Lesson

I want to say a little more about the Biblical principle of sanctification. There are many other parts to it that need to be studied. You are going to be such experts at this when we finish!



Sanctification means to be set apart or sanctified to God at the moment of your personal salvation. It means belonging to God in an intimate, very close way. It's a Bible word for Church-age believers who are Royal family of God. Believers become sanctified at the moment of salvation because at that moment you receive Jesus' righteousness (+R). You are born again spiritually and you become saints of God...holy and blameless in His sight. This is known as "positional sanctification." *1 Cor 1:2 "To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours..."*

What are the other terms or phrases for positional sanctification? Do you remember? They are: *Baptism of the Holy Spirit and "positional truth."*

There are three (3) phases or stages to sanctification in life:

1. Phase one sanctification is called "Positional Sanctification" and happens in a split second at the moment you believe in Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. You heard the Gospel message, the Holy Spirit made it possible for you to understand it, you believed it and you said "yes" and the Holy Spirit took your little "yes" and made it effective for salvation. You become born again spiritually and receive the perfection or righteousness that belongs to God the Father and Jesus (+R) (+R). At that very moment you become sanctified or a saint (perfect in the eyes of God). Sanctified means you are perfect and were set apart in Jesus for a purpose or for service to Him. Again you are a saint (perfect in the eyes of God) or a member of Jesus' royal family. In other words you belong to God's family and you have a job to do for God. That job or service is your spiritual gift and it is used in the next phase.

2. Phase two sanctification is called "Experiential Sanctification" and this happens throughout your life **after** you are saved. It's when your soul is filled with lots and lots of Bible doctrine or the Word of God from your daily study. Of course this is all done in the filling of the Spirit and should happen everyday of your life in Christ. Remember you cannot learn the Word or be useful to Jesus unless you are filled by the Holy Spirit. This is when you live the sanctified life in Christ in the plan of God. *2 Tim 2:21-22 "Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, then he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified (set apart for a purpose), useful to the Master (Jesus), prepared for every good work (your spiritual job after salvation...your spiritual gift, which will produce divine good). (22) Now run away from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart."* Notice the "if -then." Maybe you will, maybe you will not. That is saying that your volition or free will is the issue here. You must decide to live in the plan of God for your life and do this.

Notice also the future tense **"will be."** This is not the Baptism of the Spirit because that took place in the past for the believer, at the moment of his or her salvation. This CANNOT be positional sanctification in this verse.

3. Phase three of sanctification is called **Ultimate Sanctification** (the last phase) and this means that the believer will become sanctified or set apart in a resurrection body forever. This takes place at the Rapture of the Church. [Phil 3:19-21](#) "For our citizenship is in heaven (current positional truth), from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; (21) who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the energy of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself."



So, for us in the Church sanctification means that God has created a brand new species or nature of spiritual royalty that sets us apart to glorify Jesus to the max in the Church Age. The doctrine of sanctification teaches us that God's purpose is to make each Church-age believer just like the humanity of Christ. [Rom 8:29](#) "For whom He foreknew (before we existed), He also predestined (has a plan for each of us) to become just like the image of His Son, that He (Jesus) might be the first-born among many brethren (all Church Age believers)..."

Now, the part about us becoming just like the image of His Son happens in the three phases or stages of sanctification that we just learned about above: a) Positional Sanctification; b) Experiential Sanctification; and c) Ultimate Sanctification. Sanctification is a technical Bible term for what you are as a member of the Royal family of God and it happens in the three phases of the Pre-designed plan of God.

The word "sanctification" means to be set apart to God for a special purpose. It means we are saints...perfect in the eyes of God because we have His and Jesus' righteousness or perfection (+R) (+R). Lot's of people think that being a saint means "holy" or super good. But no one is good in the eyes of God unless they are perfect, right? Well [Romans 5:12](#) tells us all of us are unrighteous and sinners, right? We have a sin nature but as believers even with our sin nature, we are perfect in God's eyes because He made us perfect in Christ (+R) when we believed in Him and became born again as new creatures in Christ.

Sanctification means to be under a grace contract with God forever, we call this the New Covenant or Testament! This new covenant sets apart every individual at the point of salvation and places him or her in union with Christ...Baptism of the Holy Spirit! So, Sanctification means to be set apart as sacred and holy...sanctified, faithful in our worship for God. The word means to belong to God in a special way.

Let's look at the etymology of the Greek words of the New Testament concerning sanctification. Whoa...BIG WORD ALERT!!!!!! Well relax! Etymology refers to the history of a word and how the Bible uses it. And there is more than one word for sanctification in the Bible. The most popular word used in the Bible concerning sanctification is the word *hagios*, which means "holy" or "saint." This word tells us that each member of the Royal Family of God is set apart to God. [1 Cor 1:2](#) "To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified (*hagios*) in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours..." Because of "positional sanctification," all believers are holy and are saints!



This word means that you have been set apart by God for a special purpose. And that special purpose can only be discovered when you have lots and lots of Bible doctrine in your soul. With lots and lots of Bible doctrine in your soul you can live the sanctified life in Christ...phase two sanctification, also called experiential sanctification! This is when you do the job that God assigned to you...your spiritual gift in action! YOU REMEMBER...study everyday and your soul will fill up with the Word of God and then God can use you. But

you say, "It's too hard!!" Really? Is it really? We talk or think like it's the hardest thing to do...to live this life God designed for us but really it is the most secure thing because it has Almighty God in it and behind it!! And we are in Christ! He supplies us with His grace and Power to do the job!!!

A very great man, who walked with the Lord a long time ago by the name of Oswald Chambers, said this about living the sanctified life: *"If we are born again, it is the easiest thing to live in right relationship to God and the most difficult thing to go wrong, IF only we will obey God's warnings and keep in His light."*

When we think of being delivered from sin, of being filled by the Spirit, and of walking in the light, we picture a great, high mountain, and we say, 'Oh, but I never could live up there?' but when we do get there by God's grace we find it is not a mountain peak, but a plateau where there is lots of room to live and to grow."



You see God gives us His grace and plan and the power of the Holy Spirit, who sanctified you by the way, to live the sanctified life and become more like Jesus everyday. Remember you are a saint and holy and perfect in His sight. Just use EVERYTHING God gives us and you can live the life He expects us to live as royal family members. Choose it!

And the Church-age is the only dispensation or time period where this sanctification or "set-apartness" takes place! We are the Royal Family of God. You are set apart by God as Royal Family through the Baptism of the Spirit and therefore you are called saints! Now, remember kids, a saint is NOT someone who is super nice toward everyone or someone who is a goody, goody. A saint is someone who has been set apart for a purpose by God forever and all Church-age believers are called saints. So, the Greek word, *hagios* is translated holy and saint and is just the Bible title for royalty! Doesn't this just tie it all together for you to understand? Saint, holy, royalty...all these words apply to you, the believer in Christ. And to help you further understand what you have, this word actually says the believer is related to the perfect integrity and holiness of God! (+R) in you!!!



Sanctification says that you are in a plan and you are royalty and it gives the believer the right to move forward to the greatest heights in this life...the sanctified life...spiritual maturity!

The word *hagios* is translated saints in such passage as [ROM 8:27](#) "...and He (the Holy Spirit) who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He pleads for the saints according to the will of God." And we find it again back in [ROM 1:7](#) "...to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

So, the Greek word *hagios* is one of the titles for the royal family of God. Unfortunately, it is translated into the English by an unclear word which has a wrong suggestion: "Saint." This looks like some sort of self-righteous, holy, painful life of sacrifice...too hard for regular people! But actually *hagios* describes YOU AS A BELIEVER in Christ. Every church age believer is a saint, no matter who or what he is.

Now, again, as members of the Royal family of God, we are set apart to God at the moment of our personal salvation to the eternal state...our position in Christ in heaven. Phase one, positional sanctification, refers to eternal salvation, at which point the Baptism of the Spirit enters every believer into union with the person of Jesus Christ. And this positional sanctification means you have eternal security; there is no way you can ever get out of your relationship with God. Now that should really comfort you guys enough to continue your walk in phase two sanctification...experiential sanctification...your daily walk in the plan of God.

Close in prayer

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on March 3, 2011
Lighthouse Bible Church

