

Luke 10:20

Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but **rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.** – Jesus Christ

## HOW I KNOW I AM BORN AGAIN

Part Four / Wednesday, December 14, 2016

### SANCTIFICATION

#### BRIEF REVIEW:

So far we have studied:

- Conversion - We call upon God to turn us around and change our lives. This requires repentance and faith
- Justification - This is the reversal of God's attitude toward us because of our new relationship with Him (just-as-if-I'd-never-sinned)
- Regeneration - Which is the impartation of a new nature or heart

Today: SANCTIFICATION - which is a separation to God, purification from moral evil and conformation to the image of Christ

Hebrews 12:1-16 (New Living)

**Since we have such a huge crowd of men of faith watching us from the grandstands, let us strip off anything that slows us down or holds us back, and especially those sins that wrap themselves so tightly around our feet and trip us up; and let us run with patience the particular race that God has set before us.**

**[2] Keep your eyes on Jesus, our leader and instructor. He was willing to die a shameful death on the cross because of the joy he knew would be his afterwards; and now he sits in the place of honor by the throne of God.**

**[3] If you want to keep from becoming fainthearted and weary, think about his patience as sinful men did such terrible things to him. [4] After all, you have never yet struggled against sin and temptation until you sweat great drops of blood.**

**[5] And have you quite forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you, his child? He said, "My son, don't be angry when the Lord punishes you. Don't be discouraged when he has to show you where you are wrong. [6] For when he punishes you, it proves that he loves you. When he whips you, it proves you are**

1 really his child."

2 [7] Let God train you, for he is doing what any loving father does for his children.  
3 Whoever heard of a son who was never corrected? [8] If God doesn't punish you  
4 when you need it, as other fathers punish their sons, then it means that you aren't  
5 really God's son at all--that you don't really belong in his family. [9] Since we  
6 respect our fathers here on earth, though they punish us, should we not all the more  
7 cheerfully submit to God's training so that we can begin really to live?

8 [10] Our earthly fathers trained us for a few brief years, doing the best for us that  
9 they knew how, but God's correction is always right and for our best good, that we  
10 may share his holiness. [11] Being punished isn't enjoyable while it is happening--it  
11 hurts! But afterwards we can see the result, a quiet growth in grace and character.

12 [12] So take a new grip with your tired hands, stand firm on your shaky legs, [13]  
13 and mark out a straight, smooth path for your feet so that those who follow you,  
14 though weak and lame, will not fall and hurt themselves but become strong.

15 [14] Try to stay out of all quarrels, and seek to live a clean and holy life, for one  
16 who is not holy will not see the Lord. [15] Look after each other so that not one of  
17 you will fail to find God's best blessings. Watch out that no bitterness takes root  
18 among you, for as it springs up it causes deep trouble, hurting many in their  
19 spiritual lives. [16] Watch out that no one becomes involved in sexual sin or becomes  
20 careless about God as Esau did: he traded his rights as the oldest son for a single  
21 meal.

22  
23 Let's take a good look at true sanctification:

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25 1. It is not only separation unto God but separation from defilement.

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27 True holiness doesn't seem to be taught as much as it once was, and there is frankly a  
28 whole lot more conforming to the world system than existed then. This is often a knee  
29 jerk against the legalism we knew as youth or children.

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31 The fact is, God will expects His children to be holy - morally clean.

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33 The Bible is filled with stories of human beings, such as you and I, who conformed to  
34 God's standard.

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36 King Hezekiah was 25 years old when he began to reign, following the 16 year evil reign  
37 of his father, King Ahaz. The Old Testament tells his story of revival and cleaning up  
38 his country:

39  
40 2 Chron. 29:4-6 King James Version

1       **And he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them together into**  
2 **the east street, [5] And said unto them, Hear me, ye Levites, sanctify now yourselves,**  
3 **and sanctify the house of the Lord God of your fathers, and carry forth the filthiness**  
4 **out of the holy place. [6] For our fathers have trespassed, and done that which was**  
5 **evil in the eyes of the Lord our God, and have forsaken him, and have turned away**  
6 **their faces from the habitation of the Lord, and turned their backs.**

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8       The New Testament applies this truth practically to us now:

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10       2 Cor. 6:14-18 New Living

11       **Don't be teamed with those who do not love the Lord, for what do the people of**  
12 **God have in common with the people of sin? How can light live with darkness? [15]**  
13 **And what harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a Christian**  
14 **be a partner with one who doesn't believe? [16] And what union can there be**  
15 **between God's temple and idols? For you are God's temple, the home of the living**  
16 **God, and God has said of you, "I will live in them and walk among them, and I will**  
17 **be their God and they shall be my people." [17] That is why the Lord has said,**  
18 **"Leave them; separate yourselves from them; don't touch their filthy things, and I**  
19 **will welcome you [18] and be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and**  
20 **daughters."**

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22       Now it is important to see how the Apostle Paul wrapped up this truth in the next chapter:

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24       2 Cor. 7:1 New Living

25       **Having such great promises as these, dear friends, let us turn away from**  
26 **everything wrong, whether of body or spirit, and purify ourselves, living in the**  
27 **wholesome fear of God, giving ourselves to him alone.**

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29       Note this same passage in the King James Version:

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31       2 Cor. 7:1 **Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves**  
32 **from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**

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34       What is this "filthiness of the flesh and spirit?"

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36       Galatians 5:19-20 (This is the list of sins) King James Version

37       **Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication,**  
38 **uncleanness, lasciviousness, [20] Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations,**  
39 **wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, (21) envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings,**  
40 **and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that**

1 **they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.**

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3 First - SENSUAL sins:

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5 1- Adultery is sex between married people NOT married to each other  
6 2- Fornication is sex between people not married  
7 3- Uncleanness of the mind - improper thought life  
8 4- Lasciviousness (brutality and sadism)

9  
10 Next we come to RELIGIOUS sins:

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12 5- Idolatry (anything we revere equally or more than God Himself)  
13 6- Witchcraft (comes from word pharmakeia and has to do with drugs as well )  
14 7- Hatred - enmity  
15 8- Variances - quarrels, divisions

16  
17 Next we come to SOCIAL sins:

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19 9-Emulations (rivalry, jealousy)  
20 10-Wrath - a hot temper  
21 11--Strife - factions or cliques  
22 12--Seditious - divisions  
23 13--Heresies - teachings that are not true or biblical  
24 14--Envyings (coveting)  
25 15--Murder

26  
27 And finally PERSONAL SINS:

- 28  
29 16-Drunkenness  
30 17-Revelings

31  
32 And then Paul added: 'AND SUCH LIKE' - meaning there are still other transgressions  
33 against God.

34  
35 But then come the next charming verses that extol the Christian fruit of the Holy Spirit:

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37 Galatians 5:22-23 **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering,**  
38 **gentleness, goodness, faith, [23] Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.**

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40 A Christian could protest, "But-but-but I can't live on that high plain." But you are

1 forgetting already last week's study on REGENERATION: 2 Cor. 3:18 **But we all,**  
2 **with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the**  
3 **same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.**

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5 We often call it here, "Living from the life of Christ!"

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7 **HOW DOES SANCTIFICATION "HAPPEN?"**

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9 1. There are two "kinds" of sanctification. The first happens when you are converted  
10 and this is called POSITIONAL sanctification.

11 The scriptures teach that the moment a person believes on Christ and is born again,  
12 saved, he or she is SANCTIFIED. Not on our own merit or achievement but we are  
13 appropriating the SANCTIFY of Jesus Christ Himself. He dwells within us.

14  
15 2. But sanctification also CONTINUES (or progresses) throughout life and this is called  
16 EXPERIENTIAL sanctification. Romans 8:13 **For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall**  
17 **die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.**

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19 This does not infer "sinless perfection." No one is perfect....but we don't continue to  
20 wallow in the filth of yesterday's sins. (If "sinless perfection" is an unscriptural doctrine,  
21 which is truly is, then we need to be keenly aware of "sinful imperfection." Romans 6:1  
22 *What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*

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So POSITIONALLY we are sanctified the day we believe in Christ but  
EXPERIENTIALLY we are growing or maturing in the graces of God.

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27 The great Evangelist of yesteryear, Charles G. Finney, wrote: *He who does not*  
28 *habitually overcome the world is not born of God. In saying this, I do not intend to*  
29 *affirm that a true Christian may not sometimes be overcome by sin; but I do affirm that*  
30 *overcoming the world is the general rule, and falling into sin is only the exception.*  
31 Then Finney rebuked those who hold they must go on sinning: *Many indulge in the very*  
32 *opposite expectation. Far from expecting any such thing as the apostle authorizes*  
33 *them to expect, they know they have no such expectation. How perfectly chilling and*  
34 *horrible for persons to oppose the idea of expecting deliverance from sin and yet talk*  
35 *calmly of going on in sin all the rest of their earthly lives!*

36  
37 3. COMPLETE AND FINAL EXPECTATION This will come only at the Rapture or  
38 Resurrection.

1 At that time, the body will be glorified and that which is imperfect will be abolished.

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3 PRACTICAL HELPS IN SANCTIFICATION

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5 1. Pursue holiness. Set your personal goals very high.  
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7 2. Let there be a daily, total surrender of your life to God. "All to Jesus I surrender!"  
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9 3. Make it a point to have a daily time in God's Word. There is no shortcut to this!

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13 Next week we wrap up this short series with RECONCILIATION.  
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