1Thess #63

The doctrine of sanctification.

I have two announcements - please keep Mark from Connecticut in prayer.

Also, this Sunday the message may go up late Saturday night or very early Sunday morning – I have pre-season tickets to watch the Red Sox and Philly’s play over in Clearwater.

My wife and my son and his wife along with some other folks are all meeting up at the game at 1:30pm.

Also, April fool’s weekend I may take a few days off.

That would just be Sunday, April 2nd . Which means I would be doing the Lord’s Supper the following week - probably on Tuesday the 4th .

I will announce that for certain, on the last few days of this month.

1Thes 4:1 Finally then, brothers *and sisters,* we request and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received *instruction* from us as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel *even* more.

We spent several messages looking at walking and pleasing God. They go hand in hand with your lifestyle of spiritual growth.

[1Th 4:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/4/2/s_1115002) For you know what instructions we gave you by *the authority of* the Lord Jesus.

/[1Th 4:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/4/3/s_1115003) For this is **the will of God, your sanctification**; *that is,* that you abstain from sexual immorality;\

[1Th 4:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/4/4/s_1115004) that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

[1Th 4:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/4/5/s_1115005) not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

Today and into the next message we will look at the doctrine of sanctification.

Starting with the word itself - which is made up of three key words in Christianity.

3 Greek words or root words all related to BELS at salvation.

/Sanctification – *hagiasmos,* purified in body, soul and mind, set aside. Under contract to GOD, removed from everything else (set apart).

Holy – *hagiazō,* cleansed or purified, dedicated to God.

Saints – *hagios,* to be blameless, consecrated.

All 3 point to the same circumstance that is instantaneous and permanent at salvation. Bels are entered into a special contract with sanctification. \

HOG-EE-AH-MOS, completely changed and set aside by God.

HOG-EE-AD-ZO, ceremonial cleansed, washed or prepared for service, under the contract of God.

HOG-EE-US, to be holy or a saint.

Sanctification means to be set apart as sacred, to be consecrated to God. It means more than that, it means to be under contract to God forever.

OT priests had to be ceremonially washed to enter the temple. They had agreed to enter into a service for GOD.

CA Bels are washed at salvation.

The person and work of Christ set aside the old contract, the old covenant, the Mosaic law. CA Bels do not have a shadow contract known as the Mosaic law, we have a fulfilled contract by the work of Christ.

The old contract of the Mosaic law served its purpose and was fulfilled and completed in TLJC.

The nation of Israel will have the remainder of all their promises fulfilled in the 1,000 reign of Christ on earth. REPEAT

/The new contract/covenant, related to CA Bels is called the New Testament. It is for the royal priesthood of the Church Age. It is for royalty; it is for priests. The contract calls for the Believer to be royalty, it is a binding, eternal contract to GOD.\

Therefore in the strictest sense of the meaning of – sanctification, it means the Believer of the Church Age is under contract to God forever. You signed the contract the moment you believed upon Jesus Christ.

The strength of that contract is provided on the basis of the efficacious work of Christ on the cross.

Phase one of sanctification was that you crossed the salvation gateway.

You entered into an eternal contract with your free will and the power of God the HS through the work of TLJC.

/1Cor 1:2 To **the church of God** which is in 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:

All CA Bels (winner or loser), are considered under contract and sanctified – saints, holy and set apart.\

Turn to Hebrews chapter ten RF.

Your position was changed forever the moment you believed upon TLJC.

/Phase one sanctification: Baptism of the Holy Spirit; Salvation and the grace gifts.

Phase two sanctification: Operation of two power options (filling of the HS & Word) experiential sanctification, growth leading to SM;

Phase three sanctification: absent from the body, face to face with the Lord in a resurrection body forever. \

Every Bel of the CA enters into the contract and phase one sanctification. Just as every CA Bel will have phase 3 sanctification at physical death.

It is phase two sanctification (experiential), that many Bels reject. And therefore, that will be the determining phase as to their rank or authority in heaven. It is phase two that enables crowns, blessings and rewards in time and in eternity.

 REPEAT

The Apostle Paul clarifies the grace plan set up by GOD where we are welcomed into a Royal Contract for all of eternity.

God takes the base things of the world and the insignificant ones and HE promotes them into royalty.

/1Cor 1:28 and the insignificant things of the world and the despised **God has chosen,** the things that are not, so that **He may nullify the things that are,** 29 so that no human may boast before God.

In God’s grace plan HE can take the most insignificant creatures and bring them into a holy and royal priesthood and family.\

Phase one of sanctification only took a moment of positive volition from you and the Triune GOD has all the work and details figured out from eternity past!

/[1Co 1:30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/1/30/s_1063030) But *it is* due to Him *that* **you are in Christ Jesus,** who became to us wisdom from God, and **righteousness and sanctification, and redemption**, 31so that, just as it is written: “LET THE ONE WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD.”\

Notice in Hebrews chapter ten we see the work and power of the High Priest who we are in union with and under HIS authority;

/Heb 10:10 By this will, **we have been sanctified**through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all *time****.\*

Heb 10:11 Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins;

All the rituals of the OT were designed to point to the person and work of TLJC, the blood of innocent animals has no power.

/[Heb 10:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/heb/10/12/s_1143012) but He, having **offered one sacrifice for sins for all time**, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD,

The body of Christ on that cross was the offering that satisfied all issues of sin in the divine courtroom of heaven. The bill was paid! Once Jesus sat down the contract was solidified for all of us.\

[Heb 10:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/heb/10/13/s_1143013) waiting from that time onward UNTIL HIS ENEMIES ARE MADE A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET.

/[Heb 10:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/heb/10/14/s_1143014) For by **one offering He has perfected**for all time those who are **sanctified**.

All Bels are made pure and perfect (POSITION) and entered into a contract of Royalty no matter what they do after salvation.\

God the Father is the author of the plan, under Him there are three agents who handle the details and work of the contract.

The Believer is not an agent.

The agents do all of the work under the contract, this is all under the grace plan of GOD which means - human effort is excluded.

/The Son of God — the humanity of Jesus was the offering for the sins of the world. It is through HIS humanity we are connected to a priesthood and royal contract. (Heb 10:10-14)\

Jump over to Romans chapter 15.

Outside of the brief moment of time when we recognized we are sinners in need of a savior and TLJC is the only one, we are excluded from any effort entering into this contract.

/The Holy Spirit — The efficacious grace work of the HS, is what entered us into the contract. Because human effort would never seal the deal and in fact human effort would cancel the deal. God the HS is the second agent implementing the contract.

 (Rom 15:15-16, 2Thess 2:13) \

We reap all the benefits in the contract!

The Apostle Paul wrote about the grace plan and the contract of his priesthood in Romans chapter 15;

/Rom 15:15 But I have written very boldly to you on some points so as to remind you again, **because of the grace that was given to me from God**,

God’s grace plan is so abundant, it has every aspect of our eternal security and grace gifts completed, before we even came to be born again.\

God does everything in perfection from eternity past.

Every - ***T*** was crossed and every - ***I*** was dotted, millions of years ago through the Divine Decree.

/[Rom 15:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/15/16/s_1061016) to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering **as a priest** the gospel of God, so that *my* offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, **sanctified by the Holy Spirit**.

Part of the work of God the HS was to be an active agent in this contract.\

The third agent is an extension of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is HIS mind.

/The Word of God, Bible doctrine — is the third agent at work in sanctification. It is the information needed for the good news of Christ and also the information needed for growth.The Word of God is the only source of divine revelation to the royal family and the instruction for their priesthood and ambassadorship.

 (Jhn 17:17, Eph 5:26) \

It is the gospel of Jesus Christ that brings the truth of salvation – it is the indisputable facts, of BD that brings spiritual growth that sets us apart from a world filled with lies and evil.

The mind of Christ – BD is a working agent for mankind, it is the only source of truth that can wash over us and set us free.

/Jhn 17:17 “Sanctify them in the truth; **Your word is truth**.

Eph 5:26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her **by the washing of water with the word**,\

Within Phase one: we become regenerated and ushered into a royal family, a RF that is positionally higher than angels. This is why Christianity is not a religion.

/Christianity is a relationship. God the Holy Spirit enters the Believer into union with Christ. We share the life of Christ — eternal life. We share His destiny; we are predestined. We share His election; we are elected. We share His sonship, His heirship, His priesthood, His kingship. We share everything that Christ is.This is very intimate; it is a relationship.\

Christianity is truly a relationship - not a set of rituals and work that we perform to impress GOD.

Religion is man by man’s efforts seeking to gain the approbation of God. Christianity is God coming to man with a grace system where man doesn’t work. Religion is works; it is satanic and a counterfeit to a real relationship.

 REPEAT

/Positional sanctification happens at the moment of salvation – it is positional truth. It is the agreement and guarantee of the contract that at phase one sanctification, you are positionally changed for all of eternity. Out of all that we share with Christ, the two that should give us the most confidence are sharing in HIS righteousness and HIS eternal life.\

All of the grace gifts of God and the union we have with TLJC – it is these two that should become foundational pieces of our confidence, as we walk in this lost and dying world.

Because of HIS righteousness we are cleared of all sins and failure. We are now looked upon by GOD as pure, divine righteousness.

/2Cor 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin in our behalf, **so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him**.

This is the positional truth of your sanctification, it can never change!\

Just as your salvation can never be changed nor can your eternal security ever be removed.

/1Jhn 5:11 And the testimony is this, that **God has given us eternal life**, and this life is **in His Son**. 12 **The one who has the Son has the life;** the one who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

The positional truth of your sanctification, places you under eternal security.\

We are welcomed into heaven because of our sanctification.

That is all part of positional truth that can never be denied.

/2Pet 1:11 for in this way **the entrance into the eternal kingdom** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be **abundantly supplied to you.\**