

# North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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12/29/15 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part 32

## **A Little Leaven Leavens the Whole Lump**

A perverted Gospel demands a perverted sanctification. In other words, if a core doctrine is "off", the ripple effect is "felt" throughout the body of doctrines that build upon it.

### **The Right Perspective**

If your conception of the filling of the Spirit is perverted, even in the least bit, then your understanding of the fundamental doctrine of Sanctification will be proportionally perverted!

### **Synthesizing...**

- The Gospel and Salvation
- Positional Sanctification
- The Holy Spirit's Ministry (at/after salvation, working with the Word)
- Experiential/Progressive Sanctification

### **The Magnitude of the Gap**

Notice in Peter's two gospel messages, in Acts 2 and 3, he elaborated on their guilt, and their rejection of the Holy One from God. He elaborated on their sinfulness, and the gap between them and God. THEN he gave the solution, even waiting until they asked for it!

### **The Magnitude of the Gap**

The difference between a man's self-righteousness and God's righteousness is as high as the heavens are above the earth (Is 55:8-9, 64:6).

### **God Is Righteous**

Man, without Christ, is not righteous. A person who refuses this truth is utterly stuck, "blocking" God's desire to sanctify them. At this point, a person can hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ in its entirety and it will fall on "deaf ears".

### **The Magnitude of the Gap**

The Gospel message today is often made about the individual and their comfort, not about the need to satisfy the Lord and His majesty and righteousness.

### **The Magnitude of the Gap**

Often the deep, sinful nature of a person's selfishness is never addressed. The deeper need of reconciliation with a holy, righteous God, on His terms of unconditional surrender, is never addressed.

### **The Magnitude of the Gap**

Saving faith is a surrender of the heart to God, which means repenting from self-sufficiency or self-sanctification, and trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ, instead.

## **Refusing/Suppressing God's Righteousness**

If a person refuses to accept that God either doesn't exist or that if He does, they are not accountable to Him, then the intended process of sanctification is frozen.

## **Grace Realities**

Salvation and sanctification are simultaneously awarded as "realities". In other words, if a person is saved, they are sanctified (positionally) and guaranteed sanctification (experientially). To God, these are simultaneous realities.

## **Religion's Quest**

Satan promotes religion in his world in order to frustrate God's plan for His children, which is to bring glory to Himself by sanctifying them.

## **Righteousness (dikaiosune)**

- A characteristic of God (He always does what is right/just, never wrong/unjust); His righteousness is consistent with His other attributes
- His Method of Salvation (through TLJC, God saves; His justice being satisfied)
- Imputed Righteousness (man's good standing with God "in Christ")

## **Literal Translation of Ro 1:17**

- "A righteousness from God is being revealed..."
- Refers to a judicial (forensic) reality where God imputes "a righteousness" to a believer (ala Php 3:9); does not refer to God's righteousness, specifically

## **Dr. Cremer on "righteousness from God"**

*"It is the state commanded by God and standing the test of His judgment; the character and acts of a man approved of Him, in virtue of which the man corresponds with Him and His will as His ideal and standard."*

## **J. Vernon McGee on "righteousness from God"**

*"The righteousness he [Paul in Ro 1:17] is talking about is what God demands, and it is what God provides - it is a righteousness that is from God."*

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## **"is revealed"**

refers to the unveiling of the fruit of the righteousness given to believers from God at salvation; God sanctifies "from faith to faith", for it is BY faith that a man shall live as a Christian!

## **Bearing Good Fruit**

The Bible is clear that sanctification after salvation is GUARANTEED! Php 1:6 For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will

perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

**You Shall Know Them By Their Fruit**

The Apostle John uses very straightforward language to describe the polar differences between a person who has been given faith and the one who hasn't.