

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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4/24/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part
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"qualified"

from hikanoo - means to be made sufficient; made adequate; render fit; be made able (competent)

"walking...worthy" (Col 1:10)...aka:

- "from faith to faith...the righteous man shall live by faith" (Ro 1:17)
- "walk by the Spirit" (Gal 5:16, 25)
- "conduct yourselves...worthy of the Gospel" (Php 1:27)
- "walk...worthy of the calling" (Eph 4:1)
- etc., etc...

Gratitude...

- Job 9:10 Who does great things, unfathomable, And wondrous works without number.
- Ro 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!

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The Right Perspective

Sanctification is being who God has made you to be. To be full of faith, full of hope, and full of love is the greatest thing we could hope our lives become. And if we are full of those things, He will use us for mighty good works along the way, as part of our sanctification (e.g., evangelism).

Sanctification Simplified

Sanctification is a state of being, not a series of check boxes. "Being" implies doing; however, the opposite is not true. Being in love, grateful, hopeful, confident, etc...these are the essence of sanctification (cp Gal 5:22-23 - the fruit of the Spirit).

Sanctification Simplified

If the Holy Spirit is the "host" of the spiritual life, being transcendent (huperballo), then His fruit in believers must also be transcendent. We don't "do" spiritual things, we "are" them...our deeds are merely the evidence.

Sanctification Simplified

If we are to understand true sanctification, we must understand that it cannot be achieved in the absence of a grateful heart. The Cross is the mainstay of a believer's gratitude.

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Sense of Identity

A believer must seek their sense of identity in Christ, nowhere else; not through education, achievement, reputation, worldly successes, etc. The world will gladly provide you with a "sense of identity", but it is fleeting, making it the manufacturer of insecurity.

Finding Out Who You Are ("in Christ")

Stay humble (Jas 4:6) and keep hearing (Ro 10:17)! We're destined to be deceived otherwise. The flesh is a brittle instrument of unrighteousness, never able to provide convictions that last, never able to afford true security (only eternal life's perspective can do that).

Undermining the Gospel

If Satan can get people to deflect personal responsibility for sin, claiming they were "born this way", he has undermined the baseline need that draws people to the Gospel, namely the NEED for a savior, being a sinner.

Heb 3:13 [Amplified]

...by the deceitfulness of sin [its cleverness, delusive glamour, and sophistication].

PTEJC FB Post

God has taught me one very important lesson: hate sin, but love sinners. I figure if I can do just this one thing, I'm doing OK. I know because that's how Jesus lived..."

Ask Yourselves:

What does the Bible reveal Jesus doing more of: giving finances (or things it can purchase)?, or: giving Himself, His person, His time, His energy, His love?

What do true believers do?...they follow Jesus! (Lk 19:1-10, Jn 10:27)

Playing God

Just like a person has no right to say, "You're not saved because I cannot see any fruit", a person has no right to say, "You're saved even though you bear no fruit (don't follow Jesus)." They are both heinous errors that stand in direct contradiction to Holy Scripture!