North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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4/26/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part 78

"qualified"

from hikanoo - means to be make 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...

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.

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!

The Right Perspective

God provides His grace first, in changing our hearts, in teaching us to "be" like Christ, and then we are "able" to walk in His commands, with spiritual ease.

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

God has qualified YOU to be able to "walk in a manner worthy of the Lord"!

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.

What Counts with God

Spiritually speaking, you will be rewarded for Who/what you rely upon each day. After all, that's what faith is. Who/what do you put your faith in each day, for your sense of identity? 1Co 3:11-15

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).

Pastor Charles Stanley

"Love is asking what is best for the other person."

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)

Jn 10:27

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me;

1 Jo 3:14

We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.

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!