

The Ordo Salutis

The Order of Salvation

Step 11- Sanctification

As of 04/10/22

“Has it ever occurred to you that one hundred pianos all tuned to the same fork are automatically tuned to each other? They are of one accord by being tuned, not to each other, but to another standard to which each one must individually bow. So one hundred worshipers met together, each one looking away to Christ, are in heart nearer to each other than they could possibly be, were they to become 'unity' conscious and turn their eyes away from God to strive for closer fellowship.” AW Tozer

“One does not surrender a life in an instant. That which is lifelong can only be surrendered in a lifetime. Nor is surrender to the will of God (per se) adequate to fullness of power in Christ. Maturity is the accomplishment of years, and I can only surrender to the will of God as I know what that will is.” Elizabeth Elliot

“To be in Christ -- that is redemption; but for Christ to be in you -- that is sanctification!”
Unknown

“To progress is always to begin; and always to begin again” Martin Luther

“Part of what we pick up in looking at Jesus in the gospel is a way of viewing the whole world. That worldview informs all our values and deeply shapes our thinking and decision-making. Another part of what we absorb is greater confidence in Jesus' counsel and his promises. This has its own powerful effect on what we fear and desire and choose. Another part of what we take up from beholding the glory of Christ is greater delight in his fellowship and deeper longing to see him in heaven. This has its own liberating effect from the temptations of this world. All these have their own peculiar way of changing us into the likeness of Christ. Therefore, we should not think that pursuing likeness to Christ has no other components than just looking at Jesus. Looking at Jesus produces holiness along many different paths.” John Piper

“You're not likely to err by practicing too much of the cross.” Alexander Whyte (a character in Bunyan's 'Pilgrims Progress')

“As it is with spiritual discoveries and affections given at first conversion, so it is in all subsequent illuminations and affections of that kind; they are all transforming. There is a like divine power and energy in them as in the first discoveries; they still reach the bottom of the heart, and affect and alter the very nature of the soul, in proportion to the degree in which they are given. And a transformation of nature is continued and carried on by them to the end of life, until it is brought to perfection in glory.” Jonathan Edwards

“No one enters into the experience of entire sanctification without going through a “white funeral” - the burial of the old life” Oswald Chambers

“There is nothing more wonderful than when you have been hiding yourself from Him, as it were, afraid to look at Him, but at last in desperation you just have to look up, and you see the most surprising thing you have ever seen. There is a look of love. There is a look of compassion and of mercy and of pity and of welcome, and you see the great invitation, “Come!” And you go back to Him filled with ‘joy unspeakable and full of glory’.” D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

“Teaching the Bible involves far more than simply giving out information about the Bible. Bible teaching is ministering to people, liberating them from their inadequate concepts of God, expanding their notion of what it means to live faithfully before God, helping them cast aside old self-defeating habits and replace them with habits of holiness.” Leland Ryken

“Because the Holy Spirit is received by faith, our hearts are now renewed, and so put on new affections, so that they are able to bring forth good works. For thus says Ambrose: ‘Faith is the begetter of a good will and of good actions.’... Hereby every man may see that this doctrine [of justification by faith alone] is not to be accused, as forbidding good works; but rather is much to be commended, because it showeth after what sort we must do good works. For without faith the nature of man can by no means perform the works of the First or Second Table. Without faith, it cannot call upon God, hope in God, bear the cross; but seeketh help from man, and trusteth in man's help. So it cometh to pass that all lusts and human counsels bear sway in the heart so long as faith and trust in God are absent.” Phillip Schaff

Part 1- Introduction

Exodus 13:2

Sanctify to Me every firstborn, the first offspring of every womb among the sons of Israel, both of man and beast; it belongs to Me.

1Chronicles 23:13

The sons of Amram were Aaron and Moses. And Aaron was set apart to sanctify him as most holy, he and his sons forever, to burn incense before the Lord, to minister to Him and to bless in His name forever.

2Chronicles 35:6

Now slaughter the Passover *animals*, sanctify yourselves and prepare for your brethren to do according to the word of the Lord by Moses."

Joel 2:15-17

15 Blow a trumpet in Zion, Consecrate a fast, proclaim a solemn assembly,

16 Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, Assemble the elders, Gather the children and the nursing infants. Let the bridegroom come out of his room And the bride out of her *bridal* chamber.

17 Let the priests, the Lord's ministers, Weep between the porch and the altar, And let them say, "Spare Your people, O Lord, And do not make Your inheritance a reproach, A byword among the nations. Why should they among the peoples say, 'Where is their God?'"

John 17:17

Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

Ephesians 5:25-27

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

1Thessalonians 5:23-24

23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

24 Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

Hebrews 13:10-14

10 We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat.

11 For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy place by the high priest *as an offering* for sin, are burned outside the camp.

12 Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate.

13 So, let us go out to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach.

14 For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking *the city* which is to come.

Numbers 3:13

For all the firstborn are Mine; on the day that I struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, I sanctified to Myself all the firstborn in Israel, from man to beast. They shall be Mine; I am the Lord.

Numbers 8:17

For every firstborn among the sons of Israel is Mine, among the men and among the animals; on the day that I struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt I sanctified them for Myself.

2Chronicles 5:11

When the priests came forth from the holy place (for all the priests who were present had sanctified themselves, without regard to divisions),

Ezekiel 48:10-12

10 "The holy allotment shall be for these, *namely* for the priests, toward the north 25,000 *cubits in length*, toward the west 10,000 in width, toward the east 10,000 in width, and toward the south 25,000 in length; and the sanctuary of the Lord shall be in its midst.

11 "*It shall be* for the priests who are sanctified of the sons of Zadok, who have kept My charge, who did not go astray when the sons of Israel went astray as the Levites went astray.

12 "It shall be an allotment to them from the allotment of the land, a most holy place, by the border of the Levites.

John 17:19

For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.

The Acts 20:32

And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build *you* up and to give *you* the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

The Acts 26:15-18

15 "And I said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And the Lord said, '**I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.**'

**16 'But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you;
17 rescuing you from the *Jewish* people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you,
18 to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'**

Romans 15:15&16

**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 me from God,
16 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.**

1Corinthians 1:1-3

**1 Paul, called *as* an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother,
2 To the church of God which is at 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:
3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

1Corinthians 6:9-11

**9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,
10 nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.
11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.**

2Timothy 2:19-22

**19 Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness."
20 Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor.
21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these *things*, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.
22 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love *and* peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.**

Hebrews 2:9-15

9 But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, *namely*, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one *Father*; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren,

12 saying, "*I WILL PROCLAIM YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN, IN THE MIDST OF THE CONGREGATION I WILL SING YOUR PRAISE.*"

13 And again, "*I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM.*" And again, "*BEHOLD, I AND THE CHILDREN WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN ME.*"

14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

15 and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

Hebrews 10:5-14

5 Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says, "*SACRIFICE AND OFFERING YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED, BUT A BODY YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ME;*

6 *IN WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND sacrifices FOR SIN YOU HAVE TAKEN NO PLEASURE.*

7 "*THEN I SAID, 'BEHOLD, I HAVE COME (IN THE SCROLL OF THE BOOK IT IS WRITTEN OF ME) TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD.'*"

8 After saying above, "*SACRIFICES AND OFFERINGS AND WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND sacrifices FOR SIN YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED, NOR HAVE YOU TAKEN PLEASURE in them*" (which are offered according to the Law),

9 then He said, "*BEHOLD, I HAVE COME TO DO YOUR WILL.*" He takes away the first in order to establish the second.

10 By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of ^Cthe body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

12 but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, *SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD,*

13 waiting from that time onward *UNTIL HIS ENEMIES BE MADE A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET.*

14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

Hebrews 10:22-31

22 let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled *clean* from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

- 23** Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;
- 24** and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,
- 25** not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.
- 26** For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,
- 27** but a terrifying expectation of judgment and *THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES*.
- 28** Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on *the testimony of two or three witnesses*.
- 29** How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?
- 30** For we know Him who said, "*VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY.*" And again, "*THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE.*"
- 31** It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Psalms 141

- 1** O Lord, I call upon You; hasten to me! Give ear to my voice when I call to You!
- 2** May my prayer be counted as incense before You; The lifting up of my hands as the evening offering.
- 3** Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.
- 4** Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, To practice deeds of wickedness With men who do iniquity; And do not let me eat of their delicacies.
- 5** Let the righteous smite me in kindness and reprove me; It is oil upon the head; Do not let my head refuse it, For still my prayer is against their wicked deeds.
- 6** Their judges are thrown down by the sides of the rock, And they hear my words, for they are pleasant.
- 7** As when one plows and breaks open the earth, Our bones have been scattered at the mouth of Sheol.
- 8** For my eyes are toward You, O God, the Lord; In You I take refuge; do not leave me defenseless.
- 9** Keep me from the jaws of the trap which they have set for me, And from the snares of those who do iniquity.
- 10** Let the wicked fall into their own nets, While I pass by safely.

Romans 6:17-23

- 17** But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed,
- 18** and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

19 I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in *further* lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification.

20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

21 Therefore what benefit were you then deriving from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the outcome of those things is death.

22 But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1Corinthians 1:26-31

26 For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble;

27 but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong,

28 and the base 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 man may boast before God.

30 But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,

31 so that, just as it is written, "*LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD.*"

1Thessalonians 4:1-8

4 Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us *instruction* as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.

2 For you know what commandments we gave you by *the authority of* the Lord Jesus.

3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality;

4 that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

5 not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

6 *and* that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is *the* avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned *you*.

7 For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification.

8 So, he who rejects *this* is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.

2Thessalonians 2:13

But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.

Hebrews 12:14

14 Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.

Sanctify: (Hebrew OT *qadash*) To prepare; to dedicate; to be hallowed; to be holy; to be separate; to show oneself sacred¹

(Greek NT *hagiazoo*) To render or acknowledge to be venerable; to separate from things profane and dedicate to God; to consecrate; to cleanse; to purify by expiation; to purify internally by reformation of the soul²

According to the *Westminster Shorter Catechism* (Q. 35), Sanctification is

"The work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness."

The Catechism goes on to explain:

It [Sanctification] is a continuing change worked by God in us, freeing us from sinful habits and forming in us Christ-like affections, dispositions, and virtues. It does not mean that sin is instantly eradicated, but it is also more than a counteraction, in which sin is merely restrained or repressed without being progressively destroyed. Sanctification is a real transformation, not just the appearance of one.

The basic meaning of "sanctify" is to set apart to God, for His use. But God works in those whom He claims as His own to conform them "to the image of His Son" (Rom. 8:29). This moral renovation, in which we are increasingly changed from what we once were, flows from the agency of the indwelling Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:13; 12:1, 2; 1 Cor. 6:11, 19, 20; 2 Cor. 3:18; Eph. 4:22–24; 1 Thess. 5:23; 2 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 13:20, 21). God calls His children to holiness, and graciously gives what He commands (1 Thess. 4:4; 5:23).

Regeneration is birth; sanctification is growth. In regeneration, God implants desires that were not there before: desire for God, for holiness, and for glorifying God's name in the world; desire to pray and worship; desire to love and bring benefit to others. In sanctification, the Holy Spirit "works in you both to will and to do" according to God's purpose, enabling His people to fulfill their new, godly desires (Phil. 2:12, 13). Christians become increasingly Christlike, as the moral profile of Jesus (the "fruit of the Spirit") is progressively formed in them (2 Cor. 3:18; Gal. 4:19; 5:22–25).

Regeneration is a momentary act, bringing a person from spiritual death to life. It is exclusively God's work. Sanctification is an ongoing process, dependent on God's continuing action in the believer, and consisting of the believer's continuous struggle against sin. God's method of sanctification is neither activism (self-reliant activity) nor apathy (God-reliant passivity), but human effort dependent on God (2 Cor. 7:1; Phil.

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3:10–14; Heb. 12:14). Knowing that without Christ's enabling we cannot do good works, but also that He is ready to strengthen us for all we have to do (Phil. 4:13), we "abide" in Christ, asking for His help constantly—and we receive it (Col. 1:11; 1 Tim. 1:12; 2 Tim. 1:7; 2:1).

The standard to which God's work of sanctifying His saints is directed is His own revealed moral law, expounded and modeled by Christ Himself. Christ's love, humility, and patience are a supreme standard for Christians (Rom. 13:10; Eph. 5:2; Phil. 2:5–11; 1 Pet. 2:21).

Believers find within themselves contrary urgings. The Spirit sustains their regenerate desires and purposes, but their fallen instincts (the "flesh") obstruct their path and drag them back. The conflict of these two is sharp. Paul says he is unable to do what is right, and unable to restrain himself from doing what is wrong (Rom. 7:14–25). This conflict and frustration will be with Christians as long as they are in the body. Yet by watching and praying against temptation, and cultivating opposite virtues, they may through the Spirit's help "put to death" particular bad habits (Rom. 8:13; Col. 3:5). They will experience many particular deliverances and victories in their battle with sin, while not being exposed to temptations that are impossible to resist (1 Cor. 10:13)

So there is much to consider. But as we continue to investigate just what Sanctification is and how it operates in believer's lives- there are a few things to understand:

- ✓ **Sanctification** is a fact of history; a present truth; and an ongoing reality. It is true to think and say that believers have already been sanctified (historical fact); they are sanctified now (present truth); and they are being sanctified (ongoing reality).
- ✓ **Sanctification** is both a Sovereign Work of God's Grace and a cooperative effort by Man.
- ✓ **Sanctification** is both something to hope for and something to rejoice about.
- ✓ **Sanctification** is accomplished both "by faith" and through works
- ✓ **Sanctification** is not something for which we volunteer; it is automatically begun in the life of every genuine believer

There are some synonyms for Sanctification. Among them are:

- Walking by Faith and not by Sight
- Walking in the Spirit
- Serving Christ
- Being Obedient
- Bearing Fruit
- Pursuing Holiness
- Crucifying the Flesh
- Mortifying the Deeds of the Body
- Working Out Your Salvation

The basic meaning of the verb "to sanctify" is to separate, or to set apart. Sanctification in the Scriptures is the Sovereign Act of God whereby He sets apart a person, a place, or an object for Himself in order that He might accomplish His Purpose in the world through those means.

The Doctrine of Sanctification, as it relates to believers, is seen as a process of moral and spiritual transformation flowing from the initial event of Justification and Adoption through faith in Jesus Christ. David Peterson says Sanctification is

“both a one-time event and a process, the believer’s being and becoming holy and acting correspondingly.”³

Sanctification is based upon a believer’s relationship to God and the indwelling Holy Spirit. Regeneration- otherwise known as The New Birth- is accomplished through the Work of the Holy Spirit alone. However, believers are instructed to cooperate in the process of Sanctification.

Philippians 2:12

So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling

In the Old Testament, the nation of Israel was commanded on several occasions to “be holy” because of their relationship with the holy God Who had redeemed them from their bondage in Egypt.

Exodus 19:6

and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

Leviticus 11:44&45

44 'For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. And you shall not make yourselves unclean with any of the swarming things that swarm on the earth.

45 'For I am the Lord who brought you up from the land of Egypt to be your God; thus you shall be holy, for I am holy.'"

Leviticus 19:2

"Speak to all the congregation of the sons of Israel and say to them, 'You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

Additionally, material things such as the Tabernacle furniture and even a mountain were “sanctified” or “set apart” or “consecrated” unto God.

Exodus 40:10-13

10 "You shall anoint the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils, and consecrate the altar,

and the altar shall be most holy.

11 "You shall anoint the laver and its stand, and consecrate it.

³ Peterson, David, *Possessed by God*, Inter Varsity Press: Downers Grove, Illinois, 1995, 14.

12 "Then you shall bring Aaron and his sons to the doorway of the tent of meeting and wash them with water.

13 "You shall put the holy garments on Aaron and anoint him and consecrate him, that he may minister as a priest to Me.

Exodus 19:23

Moses said to the Lord, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai, for You warned us, saying, 'Set bounds about the mountain and consecrate it.'"

In the New Testament believers are given the same instruction to “be holy” or “sanctified”

John 17:17

"Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

1Thessalonians 5:23

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1Peter 1:15&16

15 but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior;

16 because it is written, "*YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.*"

... yet at the same time that believers are called *to be* holy- they are also addressed as *being* “saints” and “holy ones” as though they have already accomplished that Command because by virtue of simply being Regenerate; Justified; and Adopted- they had *already been* “set apart” from the lost sinful and pagan world unto God and His Purposes.

In other words- believers are already holy- in that sense of the word- even though they are also called and required to pursue Holiness. This is what is known as “*The Mystery of Sanctification*” the reality that a person can already be sanctified and yet not be sanctified at the same time.