Not Yet Wholly Sanctified, But One Day We Will Be

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1Th 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I. A prayer for now —"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly"

A. Similar to the way Paul closes other letters

- Heb 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,
- Heb 13:21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.
- Php 4:9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

B. It might seem that these at this church were already sanctified

- 1Th 1:3 Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;
- 1Th 1:4 Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.
- 1Th 1:5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance...
- 1Th 1:6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:
- 1Th 1:7 So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.
- 1Th 1:8 For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.

C. Yet Paul did not seem to think that they were already sanctified

1Th 3:5 For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

D. Even when Timothy came back with a good report —Paul was still not satisfied

- 1Th 3:6 But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always...
- 1Th 3:10 Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith?
- 1Th 3:11 Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you.
- 1Th 3:12 And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all *men*, even as we *do* toward you:
- 1Th 3:13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.
- 1Th 4:1 Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort *you* by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, *so* ye would abound more and more.
- 1Th 4:10 And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more;
- 1Th 5:11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

E. Paul continued to admonish for more and more

- 1Th 5:12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;
- 1Th 5:13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.
- 1Th 5:14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all *men*.

- 1Th 5:15 See that none render evil for evil unto any *man*; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all *men*.
- 1Th 5:16 Rejoice evermore.
- 1Th 5:17 Pray without ceasing.
- 1Th 5:18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
- 1Th 5:19 Quench not the Spirit.
- 1Th 5:20 Despise not prophesyings.
- 1Th 5:21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.
- 1Th 5:22 Abstain from all appearance of evil

II. A prayer for eternity —"and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

A. Jesus has made all He died for blameless

1. Beyond parole to pardon (forgiveness/remission)

Jer 50:20 ... for I will pardon them whom I reserve.

- Luk 7:48 And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.
- Luk 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do...
- Act 13:38 Be it known unto you therefore, men *and* brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:
- Eph 4:32 ... even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Mat 26:28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

2. Beyond pardon to redemption/ransom

Mat 20:28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Heb 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*.

1Co 6:19 ...and ye are not your own?

1Co 6:20 For ye are bought with a price...

3. Beyond pardon to cleansed

Rev 1:5 ... Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

- 1Co 6:11 ...but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.
- Jer 50:20 In those days, and in that time, saith the LORD, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and *there shall be* none; and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found: for I will pardon them whom I reserve.

4. Beyond pardon to no remembrance of sins

Isa 43:25 I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Heb 10:17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

5. Beyond pardon to perfection

Heb 10:14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

Col 1:22 ...to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:

6. Beyond pardon to justification

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus...

Rom 8:33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? *It is* God that justifieth. Rom 8:34 Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died...

7. Beyond pardon to glorification

- Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
- Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

B. In the end our whole spirit, soul and body will be preserved blameless

Joh 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. Joh 10:29 My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand.

- Joh 6:39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.
- Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
- Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.
- Rom 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?
- Rom 8:38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
- Rom 8:39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1Th 5:24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

- 1Co 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, *that ye may be* blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1Co 1:9 God *is* faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Joh 5:25 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.
- Php 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

1Th 5:25 Brethren, pray for us.

- Eph 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
- Eph 6:19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

2Th 3:1 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have *free* course, and be glorified, even as *it is* with you:

2Th 3:2 And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.

1Th 5:26 Greet all the brethren with an holy kiss.

1Th 5:27 I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read unto all the holy brethren.

1Th 5:28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.