

Sanctification: A Pragmatic Exposition

There are many and varied attitudes to this very interesting topic, it has been the subjects of great debate throughout the centuries. Some say we are continually being changed or sanctified, others in Pentecostal circles contest that we are sanctified after the baptism of the Spirit. So just what is correct? Well we must as at all times go with what scripture says;

“Then He said,”Behold I have come to do your will,O God.” He takes away the first that He may establish the second. By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Yeshua (Jesus Christ) once for all” (Heb 10:10)

Many believers are living a life lower than the one Yeshua purchased for them because they still think they are sinners. We are not sinners if we have been born again; we are sanctified by the blood of Jesus. His one offering perfected the saints forever; that is what makes it different from the offering of the other high priests. When He said “It is Finished” He meant it. Those being sanctified, from God’s view point, have been sanctified for ever, and this is the difference between position and practice. Believers that have been sanctified in Jesus are already perfect in God’s view, because Jesus was perfect. This is the whole point of being in Jesus, we were sinners but now we are sanctified, we still have the potential to sin, but because He placed His laws in our hearts and minds we should choose not to sin naturally, if this is not the case you have to question whether you are saved.

We may sin but God has hidden us in Christ and when He sees us He sees Jesus. We are being conformed day after day to the image of Jesus by His Holy Spirit. This is why our salvation is secure, because He is a covenant keeping God who said:

“For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel, after those days, says the Lord; I will put my Laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall be My people. None of them shall teach his neighbour, and none his brother, saying, Know the Lord, for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them. For I will be merciful to their **unrighteousness, and their **sins**, and their **Lawless deeds** I will remember no more.” In that He says “A new covenant,” He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old, is ready to vanish away.” (Heb 8:10-13)**

The fact that in 10v14 He uses the word **‘forever’** indicates that His work still abides because He has permanently sanctified believers in their standing before God. They are already perfect because the sacrifice was perfect, which was His body and His precious blood, (Heb 10:5, Psalm 40) unlike the blood used previously from the bulls and goats. This is why He has done away with the other covenant, the Mosaic Law. The Law could at best only cover sin, but His perfect sacrifice takes it away permanently.

To those who do not realise this, its liberating news, because they no longer have to feel defeated; believing just because they make a mistake God will jump all over them or they may lose their salvation.

“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.” (Rom 8:1)

The sin question was totally and permanently dealt with at the cross . Why?

“Because The Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the Law of sin and death.”

People who don't believe this are living a defeated life, which is short of what Messiah Yeshua achieved for you. You don't have to grovel, you don't have to go to confessional every week, or pay some kind of penance for your lack of spirituality. If you have this lack in your life it's because you're in bondage to thoughts or teachings you may have received in church, or read in books. If you are not free to serve it's because some of these things are the very strongholds Paul spoke of in 2Cor 10:4-5.

And they hold you captive because you never feel good enough. This, my friend is a lie from the devil to make you ineffective. The freedom is yours in Yeshua go out and get on with His work whatever that may be. Service is what edifies the believer most, sitting at home moping will never allow you encouragement.

The work of the cross is the most wonderful misunderstood thing about the whole Bible. It's what causes many to stumble, because they do not really believe it's the greatest miracle of all. If we have really grasped this we would have no reason to search for signs and wonders at this conference and that venue Our God does all things well!!