



Doctrine: Sanctification
From Sermon 01.19.20

Read *1 Corinthians 1:2*

Questions, Answers, and Review from Sunday's sermon: when God calls a person unto salvation, He also sanctifies them—sets them apart from the common/sinful race—and gives them the title “saint”. We are not perfectly holy yet, but are imputed the holiness of Christ—declared legally holy. Then, we begin a growing holiness process that will be complete only in heaven. As Christians, we are to strive to cooperate with God’s sanctification process and submit all to Him.

What are the Three Stages of Sanctification? Why is each important?

Scripture	Sanctification Stage	Importance/Meaning
<i>1 Corinthians 6:11</i>	Positional	<u>all in the past tense. The work was done by God. It is further evidence of my secure salvation.</u>
<i>Hebrews 10:14</i> & <i>2 Corinthians 7:1</i>	Progressive	<u>In my sinful, fallen body, sanctification is a process taking place. The more time I spend with Christ, the more I look, act, and think like Him.</u>
<i>1 Corinthians 15:50-53</i>	Perfected	<u>In heaven/glory, we will be perfectly holy. These sinful bodies and minds will be gone.</u>

How serious does God take the stages of human sanctification? The utmost. He cannot compromise. The progressive is just as important as the other two stages.

How should my attitude line up with His? Fully! Salvation was never meant to be the end of God’s work in me. I am His servant/slave now. Whatever He wants to make me...so be it.

In Progressive Sanctification, how do we cooperate with God’s process of changing us? By submitting and yielding to the Spirit and the Word in each situation, day, and tendency. It’s not a one-and-done act. It’s a choice and a discipline. See *Romans 8:13* & *Colossians 3:5*

Do you find this act/process difficult? Why do you think that is? Various personal answers. Include: my old self is at war with my new nature. The devil knows exactly how to trip me up. I still find joy and pleasure in my habitual sin(s). I just can’t break away from old friends, places, & practices that trip me up. I just don’t grasp the holiness of God...but, I love me some grace.

What are some practical steps you could take now and in 2020 to better cooperate with what God wants to do? Various brilliant ideas. Memorize some scriptures that address my position in Christ and the particular sin I struggle with. Become accountable, in a big way, to someone who loves Jesus more than they love me. Prayer. Filters*. Not give up for one slip/failure.

What does/could it mean if I neglect the sanctification process or I just have no real interest in being progressively holy? (I’m in = I’m good. God’s going to forgive me anyway. I’ll live like I want now. Saturday nights are mine...Sunday from 2:30-3:30 are His) I may not be saved. I may need to repent and believe. I may be in for a catastrophic shock at death & on Judgment Day.

See also *1 John 3:6*, *Matthew 7:21-23*, & *James 1:22*