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SANCTIFY – LESSON 1

We are going to delve into a very important subject in this series. We will study the origins and meanings of the words sanctify, sanctified, and sanctification. We will first begin with the English dictionary definitions.

Sanctify: to make holy; to make legitimate or binding by a religious sanction; to set apart as sacred; to observe as holy; to consecrate; to make free from sin; to make right.

Sanctified: made holy; set apart for sacred service.

Sanctification: the act of sanctifying, or state of being sanctified; consecration; purification from sin.

The word sanctify is first used in Genesis 2:3 where it says, ***“God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it.”*** This means He “set apart as sacred” the day He rested from the creation. He made the day holy, and to be consecrated to Him.

The Hebrew word sanctify and sanctified is “qdsh” and is written with added vowels as “qadesh” or “qadash.” This word is used through the Old Testament from the Pentateuch, (first five books) through the prophets. Strangely, it is not used in Psalms or Proverbs.

In the Greek of the New Testament, it comes from the root word family of “hagi” with six variations, one of which applies to all born-again believers called “saints,” those who have been sanctified in Christ, “hagios.”

Tomorrow we will look at its various applications in the O.T. before moving later into the N.T. Hopefully then we will all have a better understanding of how it applies to you and me today.