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OUR LORD'S PRAYER – JOHN 17

LESSON 18 VS 17 19 PART 1

Jesus prayed to the Father for His disciples saying, ***“Sanctify them through Thy truth. Thy word is truth.”***

Sanctify means: to set apart as sacred; to make holy; consecrate; to make right; justify.

Jesus prayed that the disciples (and all believers after them) be “set apart” unto God through His truth. They were to be separated from the “world” to serve Him and no other.

In the Old Testament we see that all articles used in the Temple (or Tabernacle) were to be sanctified. They had to be cleansed, purified, and then “set apart” or “devoted exclusively” for the Temple. They were not to be taken out or to be used for anything else.

Likewise, in the New testament, we are cleansed and purified through the blood of Jesus and set apart unto God to serve in the kingdom of heaven. We serve Him and not the world.

Ephesians 5:25-27 says ***“...Christ loved the church, and gave Himself for it (so) that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of the water by the word (in order) that He might present it to Himself (as) a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish.”***

Sanctification is not simply for the “church” as a whole; it is also for every individual believer. It is Jesus who sanctifies us individually through His shed blood when we accept Him as our Savior, Lord and God. Hebrews 2:11 says, ***“For both He (Jesus) that sanctifieth and they (us) who are sanctified are all one...”***. Also, In Hebrews 13:12 it says, ***“Wherefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered...”***. John 17:19 says, ***“and for their sakes I (Jesus) sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.”*** Because Jesus was (in the flesh) sanctified, so we in our flesh, and by Holy Spirit, are sanctified in Him.

A question arises that if we are truly sanctified unto God alone, why do we still battle the worldly desires, the lust of the flesh, or the pride of life? We will look deeper into that matter tomorrow as we deal with understanding more about it and discuss doctrines and teachings on the subject of our personal sanctification. Stay tuned.