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SANCTIFY – SANCTIFIED – LESSON 8

THE BELIEVER’S SANCTIFICATION – PART 4

We have looked at the original New Testament words translated as sanctify, sanctified, sanctification, and holy. Let us review them from their root of “hagi...”

Hagiazō: an action verb “to set apart” or “to separate.”

Hagiasmos: the completed action of having been “set apart.”

Hagios: one who has been “set apart.” It is translated two ways. [1] “saint” which is every believer in Christ and [2] one who is “holy” applied to both the believer and to Jesus.

Hagion: also translated “holy” in Luke 1:35 and Hebrews 9:12.

We showed that both our human spirit and our physical body are sanctified, set apart unto God, at the point of our salvation. The same root word in Greek is used for both sanctification, and holiness. By faith through the blood of Jesus, we are made holy in the Father’s eyes and set aside as His children for His purposes.

If so, then how is it that we struggle to “live holy” in this life? And what does it mean in Philippians 2:15-16 where it says, **“...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling ...that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, with rebuke...that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither labored in vain.”?**

Our spirit has been regenerated and our body set aside to serve Him. The problem lies in our soul. Nowhere does it say our human soul was sanctified and made holy. Our struggle lies within our soul where we struggle to make it line up with the spirit. It is the seat of our free will. It is where the thoughts originate in the mind. It is the place of our reasonings. And it is the direct pipeline to our physical body.

It is in our soul where Satan attacks us. He bombards us with impure thoughts and feelings. If we allow those thoughts and feelings to linger, we yield to them.

This is why we are told in II Corinthians 10:5 that we must be **“casting down imaginations (thoughts)...and bringing into captivity (control) every thought to the obedience of Christ.”**

It is our “thought life,” the soul, where we are tempted to get “off track” from a path of holiness unto God. This struggle defines the path of “progressive sanctification.”

Sanctification is twofold. The first is “complete” or “entire” sanctification of the spirit and body. The second is the “progressive” sanctification of the soul, and this we shall pursue tomorrow.