

“SANCTIFICATION”

Lesson 6 ☐ For week ending February 7, 2015

Due to the fall of Adam, all of mankind is cursed with the nature of sin. It is this nature which causes him to commit sin in spite of his desire not to do so. Sanctification is the second definite work of grace wrought by the blood of Christ, which purges us from the nature of sin. Through Christ, we can know freedom from sin as we walk in newness of life.

KEY TEXT: “But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption” (I Corinthians 1:30).

1. In order to understand the need for sanctification, it must first be established that man has a sinful nature that causes him to sin. Confirm this from Psalms 51:5 and Romans 5:14,15.

• **Psalm 51:5**

1 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.

• **Romans 5:14,15**

*14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.
15 But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man’s offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.*

2. The ineffectiveness of the sacrifices of the Law is revealed in the fact that, though they provided atonement and justification for sins, they did not destroy the nature of man that caused him to sin. Study Hebrews 9:13,14;10:1,2. Could the Law purge the conscience? The purging of the conscience from dead works is sanctification.

• **Hebrews 9:13,14**

*13 For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh,
14 how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

• **Hebrews 10:1,2**

*1 For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect.
2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins.*

3. Paul explains this purging of the conscience further in Colossians 2:11-12. Discuss the way in which spiritual circumcision removes the nature of sin, the very cause of sin.

• **Colossians 2:11,12**

*11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,
12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.*

4. Paul describes this spiritual circumcision as a baptism in which we are buried with Christ. This

baptism is further clarified in Romans 6:1-8. In this passage Paul describes the destruction of the nature of sin in us. This is not to say that temptation is destroyed; however, the inherent desire to sin is removed.

• **Romans 6:1-8**

1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?

2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.

6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—

7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.