

# Christ our Sanctifier

## Last Week:

- sanctification “separated from common life or use and dedicated in some way to the exclusive service of God.”
- OT- process that was difficult, essential
- NT. – Jesus changes everything
  - positional sanctification – made right at the cross
  - process sanctification – living up to who I already am
- clear in scripture – we are to be Holy because God is
  - provides a positional way, calls us to process

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- God's desire for us: *"It is God's will that you should be sanctified.... For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit."* 1 Thess 34:3,7-8
- 2 root words – sanctus – Holy, ficare – to make
- Heb. 10:10 *"And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."*
- son's and daughter's – full adoption, heirs with Christ
- new life started in us (regenerated)

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## 1. Paul on Obedience & Sanctification

- excitement of starting something new
- expectations that are dependant on age & information
- Paul – Rom. 15:13-21 *“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another. Yet I have written you quite boldly on some points to remind you of them again, because of the grace God gave me to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. He gave me the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.*”

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- *“Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God. I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God by what I have said and done— by the power of signs and wonders, through the power of the Spirit of God. So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ.”*

- vs 13 – promise & surrender

- vs. 14 – doing well, full of goodness, filled with knowledge, competent to instruct – great report card

- vs. 15-16 – still need oversight, encouragement, instruction from Paul

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- Key to the ministry of Paul
  - not just the presentation of salvation
  - lives lived in holiness – offering acceptable
  - leading them to obey God by power of Holy Spirit
- Reflects Great Commission Mandate
  - teaching them to obey everything I commanded....
  - desire is a freedom to live life in full obedience to the desired will of God revealed in Scripture – by the power of the Holy Spirit

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- Rom. 6:17-18 *“But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.”*
- this is not more rules, stricter religion, but a desire and empowerment to live ‘set apart for God’s exclusive use’

## 2. The Problem and Conflict

- knowledge does not always bring change
- we mostly know what we should do, but do we?

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- Rom. 7:15-25 *“I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God’s law; but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!”*

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- heart desires what is right, desires God
- my impulses and daily life distract and fail
- made hundreds of promises to do better, keep failing
- maybe everyone else has closer walk with God
- Paul promises – Jesus able for this problem
- Galatians 5:16-17 *“So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.”*



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- the whole less of me – more of Jesus truth
- to be led one must:
  - have a clear view of who is leading
  - be willing to follow – take direction
  - keep the leader in view – looking up not down
  - trust they know where they are going
- Romans 8:13 *“Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.”*

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## 3. Jesus Promise of Power for Holy Living

- Promised the Holy Spirit
  - indwell, empower, reveal, convict of sin, illumine truth
  - does not say – be sanctified & good luck with that
  - leaves everything we need with us for the task
- John 14:15-17 *“If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. “*

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- John 14:25-26 *“All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”*
- reminder that scripture is not illumined or brought to mind if you are not hiding it in your heart and dwelling on it regularly.
- John 16:7-15 *“But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because people do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. “*

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- *“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”*

- Luke 24:49 *“I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”*

- Acts 1:8 *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth”*

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## So What

1. The clear will of God is for us to be Sanctified
  - set apart for God's exclusive use
2. We are called to Obedient Holy Living
  - conflicts with our fleshly desires
  - we need something beyond what we have
3. God has Provided His Holy Spirit to Enable this
  - are you willing to humbly engage in surrender to Him?

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- 1 Cor 2:10-14 *“these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who knows a person’s thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.”*