

THE MEANING OF SANCTIFICATION

Believers have been sanctified. (past tense)

1 Corinthians 1:2 Written to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy.

The moment we are born again we are justified and we are sanctified. This aspect of sanctification is the fact of being set apart for divine service. Believers are already set apart for service.

1 Corinthians 6:11b But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Believers are to strive for holiness, for sanctity. (the present tense process of sanctification)

Hebrews 12:14 Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

Philippians 3:12 Not that I have already obtained all this or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

Ephesians 1:4 For He chose us (in Christ) to be holy and blameless in His sight.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-4 It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable.

2 Corinthians 7:1 Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.

Ephesians 4:1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

Philippians 1:27 Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.

2:12b,13 continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose.

1 Thessalonians 4:7,8 For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. He who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you His Holy Spirit.

It is the power of the Holy Spirit which continues to free us from sin. It is the work of the Holy Spirit which produces acts of righteousness in the believer.

Galatians 2:20b And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God.

Philippians 2:13 For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

Proverbs 3:6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

Sanctification starts at the moment a person is new born in Christ. Sanctification means believers are set apart for holiness and service to God, and sanctification is the process by which the Spirit acts within us and through us as we grow to be more like Jesus Christ.

Sanctification is complete at the moment of the believer's physical death. God promises to complete the work He began in the believer. At physical death the new creation (the believer) is removed from the old sin nature which was inherited from Adam. The new creation enters the presence of Jesus totally sinless and totally righteous.

Revelation 19:8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Righteousness of the believer is the righteous acts of the believer (saint) initiated by and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:9 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.

Every prayer we pray that is in the power of the Spirit is a righteous act.
Every work we do in the power of the Spirit is a righteous act.

We should desire to do righteous acts and be adorned in the righteousness of Christ when we see Him.