

- It is the Holy Spirit that prepares and keeps me for good works through the word (Gal 3:2-3; 1 Pet 2:2; Acts 20:23)
- It is the Spirit that strengthens me to deny ungodliness, through the word. (Eph 4:22-25; Col 3:9-16); Ps 119:11)

✦ COMPARING PETER, PAUL & MARY

There is no one holier than another. None are more saintly or more sanctified. (cf 1 Cor 12:13)

There are believers who are often more fruitful because they pursue the means of fruit-bearing more earnestly than others.

Sanctification is not moral progress. Many non believers have exception morality yet do not belong to God.

Likewise, many believers tumble and fall morally, yet are, by God's assessment, holy, blameless and acceptable in His sight by virtue of the Cross.

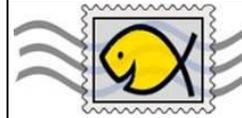
- Daily we are kept sanctified by the Spirit who credits Christ's perfection to us and renews the mind so that we are increasingly thinking Christ's thoughts after Him.
- Daily we are kept sanctified as the Spirit draws us into fellowship with our "new husband".
- We look forward to "entire sanctification" only in the sense of the future glory of our resurrected and perfected bodies.

TODAY'S LESSON:

Sanctification is like marriage. On the day you were made acceptable and pleasing in God's sight (justified), that is, on the day you put your trust in Jesus perfect life, death and resurrection for salvation, you became His. You were set apart (sanctified), as in marriage.

Now, when one becomes married, How does one display it? By pursuing the promised rewards of your new status. For example you pursue; monogamy, faithfulness and service to your spouse.

So it is with Sanctification. You have been set apart. Your new relationship[is displayed as you continue to put your faith in Jesus' righteousness and the promised rewards of transformation and glory (i.e., perfection).



**THIS, THE SCRIPTURES
TEACH AND THIS WE
BELIEVE ABOUT...**

SANCTIFICATION



"...BUT YOU WERE WASHED, YOU WERE SANCTIFIED, YOU WERE JUSTIFIED IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND BY THE SPIRIT OF OUR GOD..." 1 CORINTHIANS 6:11

SANCTIFICATION

Heb 10:1-25

LIVING HOLY IS NOT ACHIEVED BY THE PURSUIT OF MORAL EXCELLENCE. IT IS DISPLAYED BY EVER-INCREASING DEPENDENCE ON THE GRACE OF GOD IN JESUS.

Sanctification is not the process by which I become a better Christian or a high achiever in the “holiness stakes.”

My sanctification, being set apart by the blood of Jesus as God’s chosen possession, is a fact that, when believed, enables me to embrace holy attitudes and conduct and to reject sin.

☛ GETTING MARRIED - INITIATION

- In the Old Testament, to ‘sanctify’ meant to separate or regard as holy for God’s exclusive use as God’s exclusive possession (Ex 13:2, 12; Lev 22:32-33)
- Similarly, the word ‘holy’ is used of God to show that He, and all that He sanctifies are entirely distinct from the world.
- The New Testament employs a word with the same meaning and uses it in the same way - to describe the thorough separation and dedication of someone to God. (Heb 13:12)

Discuss the relationship between marriage and sanctification from Jeremiah 31:31-34.

1. What is the relationship between justification and sanctification?

Therefore,

To be sanctified means to be separated by God, for God, as in marriage. The perfection (righteousness) that comes through justification must be obtained for the relationship to begin.



☛ STAYING MARRIED - MAINTAINANCE

You have been set apart to the Lord. Now you must stay that way.

2. How do we stay joined (sanctified, separated)? (Heb 10:19-23)

There is no sliding scale in Holiness. Either you are holy or you are not and that depends on who you are knit to (Rom 11:16).

☛ THE FRUIT OF MARRIAGE - GROWTH

You were united with Christ in order to be fruitful (Rom 7:1-4).

Positively, I now belong to God and willingly pursue the interests of His household. It is displayed in life by faith as I pursue holy attitudes and conduct that reflect my new “living arrangement”.

- This new relationship is motivated to good works out of a new heart as the Holy Spirit renews and transforms the mind through the word (Heb 10:24; Rom 12:2; Eph 4:23)

Negatively, being brought into the household of God has meant moving next door to an aggressive neighbour - sin.

- The new you is still trapped in the old body, and that means war! Having been set apart for holiness has, by necessity, set me in opposition to sin. The life I now live is engaged in a war against the sin that remains in me.
- Yet, my good behaviour (those little victories) don't sanctify me, God does, through the Spirit (1 Cor 6:11; Phil 2:12-13).

3. So, how then do we fight and flourish? (Ps 16:11)
