

Sanctification (Part 4)

Jeff Rogers / Lamplighter Bible Study
John 17:17-19

It is only hours until He will be taken into custody by a mob of the religious elite led by Judas Iscariot. He will then be put on trial for crimes He did not commit. The verdict by mob rule will be that He must die by crucifixion. He will be stripped naked and beaten beyond recognition. The innocent Son of God will be scourged by Roman authorities; a process by which strips of flesh are torn from His back (a punishment many die from). He will have a cross of wood placed on His back, and He will carry it until strength fails, and one Simon Cyrene will carry His cross the rest of the distance to Golgotha.

At that point, He will be laid out upon the cross, and His hands will be stretched out and nailed in place. Finally, His feet will be nailed to the cross, a nail driven through the ankle and secured to the wood. Next, He will be lifted from the ground by a Roman guard and the cross dropped in a hole, there landing with a sickening thud. Now, He is left to die.

But now in John 17, Jesus is praying to the Father. Notice, for whom He is praying. 17:2-3,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14, 15,16,17,18,19. Then finally, John 17:20-21.

I. The Foundation for Sanctification

- A. What is the meaning of Christ's sanctification? It cannot mean to increase His holiness. (**John 17:19**)
 - 1. It means His dedication to His Father primarily. A setting apart for the special work of God.
 - 2. For their sakes, Christ dedicated Himself to our redemption.
 - 3. It is His total self, in the sense that He prays, "I sanctify myself..."
- B. What ultimately makes sanctification possible for believing sinners?
 - 1. Before the prophet Isaiah uttered the words, "Here am I, send me." Christ set His purpose and put Himself entirely in His Father's hands and at His disposal to use as He saw fit in the plan of redemption.
 - 2. This was not a reactionary plan to man's fall, but a divinely orchestrated event.
- C. Consider the following:
 - 1. **Ephesians 1:3-5**, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,*
 - 2. **1 Peter 1:20**, *He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you*
 - 3. **John 1:1-3**, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.*
 - 4. **Revelation 13:8**, *And all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.*
- D. How did the Lord do this?
 - 1. **Philippians 2:5-8**, *Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of man, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, [Not a prize to be held onto or guarded; or to be clutched] 7 but made himself nothing, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*
 - 2. **Hebrews 4:15**, *For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.*
 - 3. **Hebrews 2:10**, *For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.*

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4. What He submitted to:
 - a) **Galatians 3:13**, *Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—*
 - b) Jesus, as Son of Man, became a ‘curse’ for us, that we, as believers, might be sanctified.
 - c) He was buried, and rose again, that we might reign with Him in holiness.

II. How is Sanctification Accomplished?

- A. Sin must be removed between the believer and God.
- B. The believer is set free from the power of sin
 1. In Christ!
 - a) The believer is “in Christ.” The most powerful descriptor of a believer!
 - b) **Romans 16:7**, Greet Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners. They are well known to the apostles, and they were in Christ before me.
 2. Adopted.
 - a) **Galatians 4:5**, *To redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.*
 - b) **Ephesians 1:5**, *He predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,*
 3. Grafted.
 - a) **Romans 11:17–18**, *But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree, 18 do not be arrogant toward the branches. If you are, remember it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you.*
 4. Partakers.
 - a) **2 Peter 1:3–4**, *His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, 4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.*
 5. Temples
 - a) **1 Corinthians 6:19–20**, *Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.*
- C. The believer will be delivered from the presence of sin
 1. **1 John 3:2–3**, *Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. 3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.*

<i>“Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared.” (1 John 3:2)</i>			
Free from the Sin’s Penalty	Justification	Accomplished once	Set apart for God’s purposes
Free from the Sin’s Power	Sanctification	Applied Progressively	Pursuing holiness more & more
Free from the Sin’s Presence	Glorification	Completed Finally	Holy unto the Lord