

IMPORTANCE OF SANCTIFICATION

by unknown

Meaning of Sanctification: To make someone or something holy. To set-apart someone or something for a sacred use. Sanctification is not optional but mandatory for every true child of God. We are to be sanctified here and now. Sanctification is for own good, benefit and advantage. The essence of we coming to Jesus Christ, is not only that we may be forgiven and saved, but also that we may be like Him. We come to Christ as we are but we are not to remain as we are, we are to be changed into His likeness and conformed into His image, we are to be emptied of all that is not of Christ and be filled and full with all that is of Christ and our thoughts, words and actions is to be a reflection of all that Christ is.

WHO IS OUR SANCTIFIER?

There is a need for us to know that no one or nothing else is our sanctifier except God, that is, we can't make ourselves holy, neither can people or this world, only God can make us holy and enable us live a holy life. Our eyes must be fixed on God and our minds stayed on Him and we must be ready to establish an unbroken fellowship and relationship with the Spirit of God – relationship with God involves spending time with God, studying, meditating on His word and praying and worshipping Him, and if you don't make time available for God, He can't sanctify you. (John.17:17; 2Thessalonians.2:13; 5:23; Jude.1; 1Peter.1:2)

It's very important you understand and be mindful and conscious of the fact that it is the will of your heavenly Father, that you should be sanctified, that is, made holy. (1Thessalonians.4:3-8)

It's important you also know that you were blessed and chosen by God your father in Christ before the foundation of the world, that you be holy (sanctified) and be set-apart for God. (Ephesians.1:3-4)

It's important you know and are conscious of the fact that God who is your sanctifier is omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent:-

OMNIPOTENT: God is all powerful and nothing is impossible with him. God who is your sanctifier, is greater than the spirit of sin, yes He is greater than your infirmities, weakness, imperfection, bad habits, addictions and lifestyle, and He has the power to lift you above them and deliver/set you free from them. Never allow anyone or anything to deceive you to think, feel and say that you can't be set free from the works of the flesh or that you can't live a holy life – you are not the one to do it but God though you have a part to play which is to fix your eyes on God and allow your mind be stayed on Him, and heed your spirit, soul and body to Him and trust Him for grace to overcome sin and live a holy life. "For by strength shall no man prevail" "vain is the help of man" "not by power nor by might but by Spirit says the Lord." (Psalm.60:11-12; Zachariah.4:6; Philippians.2:13 God who is your sanctifier has the power to deliver you from every burdens, yokes, strongholds, habits, lifestyle, addictions, influences, character and works that is of darkness and the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life.

OMNIPRESENT: God is not absent on earth, he is everywhere on earth at the same time. One thing you must know, believe in and be conscious of is that you are not alone. God is spirit, that's why you can't see Him with your natural eyes. (John.4:24; Jeremiah.23:23-24; Psalm.139:7-12 ;) There is a need for you to know and be conscious of the fact that God who is your sanctifier, is present in and with you at all times to sanctify you, that is, to lift you above sin and make you live a righteous life even in an unrighteous and wicked generation. When we see things that are not of God within and without us, be it habits, characters, addictions, lifestyle or works of the flesh, we ought not to keep quiet about it or accept it or continue in it and conclude that nothing can be done about it, but instead we are to talk to God about it because He is

present with us to lift us up and deliver us from them."Greater is He that is in us, , than the works of the flesh and the sin in the world."

OMNISCIENT: God who is our sanctifier knows everything about us and our world. He knows our infirmities, weaknesses and imperfections. He knows those things that are within and without us that we are in bondage to, that are not of Him, and He knows those things that we have been born with and grown up with and the things we met in this world influencing the way we think, talk and live negatively and He is present to deliver us from them. He knows what is to be uprooted in us, what is to be healed in us, what is to be restored in us, what is to be revived in us and what is to be recreated in us and He knows those things we do in secrets that is bad and the truth is He is present as the omnipotent God to help us. Amen.

HOW ARE WE TO BE SANCTIFIED?

We are not to be sanctified with movies, money, games, food, self, family, job, TV shows, or this world but with the Truth, which is the word of God. (John.17:17) It is sad that what is intended to sanctify us, we give little of our time to or no time at all, we are not interested in, we ignore and see as less important. To hear, study and meditate on God's word is not even in the daily to do list and agenda of some people. Without the word of God, we can't be sanctified, that is, made holy by God. When you hear, study and meditate on God's word, and you receive and believe and you are mindful and conscious of it and abide by it, through the help of the Spirit of God, you are been sanctified, made holy, cleansed and made fit for God to dwell in. YOUR OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD THROUGH GOD, IS WHAT SANCTIFIES AND PURIFIES YOU. (1Peter.1:22-25)

WHY MUST WE BE SANCTIFIED?

The essence of we been sanctified by God our Sanctifier through His word of truth, is that –

1). WE MAY BE HOLY: God our Father is Holy and we his children are to be holy also. (1Peter.1:15-16). There is a need for us to know that God's original purpose for creating us as revealed in Genesis.1:26-27, is that we will be like Him. We were created to think, talk and act like God, that is, we are to be as God is and are to be a reflection of all that God is on earth. God is Love. (1John.4:8) That we may be loving, forgiving, generous, merciful, patient, kind, humble, good, benevolent and peaceful just as God our Father is loving, forgiving, generous, merciful, patient, kind, humble, good, benevolent and peaceful, is the reason we must be sanctified. Holiness has nothing to do with what you drink, what you eat or how you dress, but it has to do with becoming one with God who is love and revealing His love on earth. As we hear, study, meditate, know and understand, believe in and unite and abide by God's word, an inward working is been effected in us by God, that which is not of God in us is been removed and that which is of God is been formed in us progressively, from one degree to another.

"THE MORE YOU LIVE AND ABIDE BY GOD'S WORD WHICH IS GOD, THE MORE LIKE GOD YOU BECOME."

2). WE MAY BE SET-APART FOR GOD TO DWELL IN AND USE: We are the temples of the living God. God who is Spirit and who is love desires to dwell in us and do in us, with and through us the works He did through Jesus and greater works than He did here on earth. (1Corinthians.6:19-20; John.4:24; 1John.4:8)

You were never created to be an empty vessel or to be alone or be without God. "A man who is without the spirit of God, is dead and he is like a fish taken out of water and he is like a branch that is cut off from the vine." The sin of Adam and eve separated them from God and they were subject to suffering and evil,

they became naked." (Genesis.3)God is Holy, Good and Light (1Peter.1:16; 1John.4:5 ;)There is no relationship between light and darkness, good and evil and no relationship between righteousness and sin, God can't stay in a dirty and sinful temple, so for this reason God our sanctifier through His word of truth separates us from darkness, evil and sin, breaking God's holy laws, so that He may be able to dwell in us. "Separation from that which separates us from God whose temples we are."

IN CONCLUSION:"SANCTIFICATION" is the process by which God who is our sanctifier through His word of truth everyday makes us more and more like Christ and God enabling us day by day to resist and separate from and overcome sin (the works of the flesh, which is the breaking of God's law) and dedicate our lives to doing what is right, pleasing and acceptable in the sight of God. We can only know how to do this if we study and meditate on His word daily, by and through his holy spirit.