

Doctrine of Sanctification

Introduction

1. Let's begin with a definition of the English word sanctify. The Encarta Dictionary records five definitions:

- to make something holy
- to free somebody from sin
- to bless something through religious vow
- to officially approve something
- to make something a means of holiness

Etymology

Old Testament

1. Sanctification does not appear in the KJV of the Old Testament.

1.1 Sanctifieth does not appear in the KJV of the Old Testament

1.2 Sanctify does appear in the Old Testament. Let's look at an example from the book of Exodus.

Exodus Example

Exo 19:10 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes,

Exo 19:11 And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai.

1.3 Sanctified does appear in the Old Testament. Let's look at an example from the Chronicles.

1Ch 15:14 So the priests and the Levites sanctified themselves to bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel ...

1CH 16:1 So they brought the ark of God, and set it in the midst of the tent that David had pitched for it: and they offered burnt sacrifices and peace offerings before God.

New Testament

1. In the New Testament the verb translated sanctify is **Hagiazō**. The Greek verb has four cognates: **Hagios**, **Hagiasmos**, **Hagiotēs** and **Hagion**.

1.1 **Hagiazo** appears 28 times where in the KJV it is translated “hallowed, that sanctifieth, be holy, sanctify” or “sanctification.”

Luk 11:2 And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, **Hallowed** be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

Mat 23:19 Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that **sanctifieth** the gift?

Joh 10:36 Say ye of him, whom the Father **hath sanctified**, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?

1Ti 4:4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:

1Ti 4:5 For it is **sanctified** by the word of God and prayer.

1Co 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are **sanctified** in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both their's and our's:

1Co 1:3 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ

2.1 **Hagios** appears more than 242 times where in the KJV it is translated “holy, saint” or “saints.”

Joh 7:39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the **Holy** Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Acts 11:15 And as I began to speak, the **Holy** Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.

Acts 11:16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the **Holy** Ghost.

1Co 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be **saints**, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Col 3:11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

Col 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, **holy** and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

Col 3:13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

2.2 **Hagiasmos** appears ten times where in the KJV it is translated “holiness” or “sanctification.”

1Co 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and **sanctification**, and redemption:

2Th 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through **sanctification** of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

1Th 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your **sanctification**, that ye should abstain from fornication:

1Th 4:4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in **sanctification** and honor;

Heb 12:13 "Make level paths for your feet," so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

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

Heb 12:15 See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

2.3 **Hagiotēs** appears once where in the KJV it is translated “holiness.”

Heb 12:10 Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may be partakers in his **holiness**.

2.4 **Hagion** appears ten times where in the KJV it is translated “sanctuary, holiest, holiest of all, holy places” and “holy place.”

Heb 9:1 Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly **sanctuary**.

Heb 9:8 The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the **holiest of all** was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:

Heb 9:24 For Christ is not entered into the **holy places** made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

2.5 **Hagiosune** appears three times where in the KJV it is translated “holiness.”

Rom 1:4 And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of **holiness**, by the resurrection from the dead:

2Co 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting **holiness** in the fear of God.

1Th 3:12 And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:

1Th 3:13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in **holiness** before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

Sanctification and the Believer

1. Sanctification is a technical term describing the plan of God in the life of the believer. Phase I (positional), Phase II (time), and Phase III (eternity).

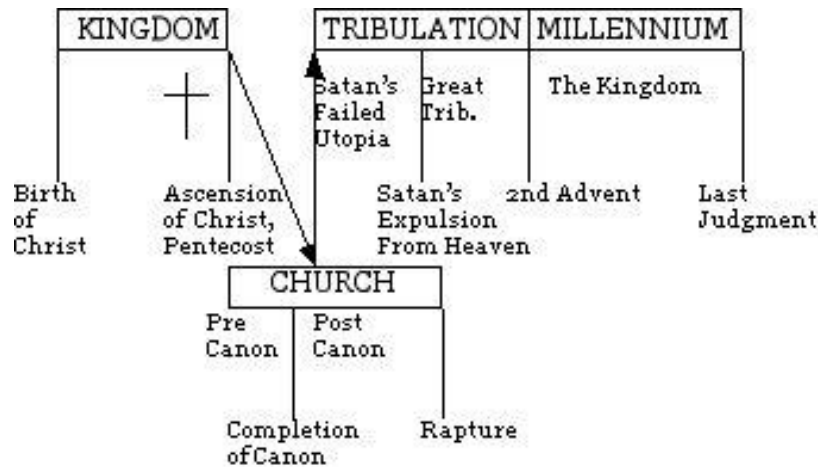
2. Sanctification means to be set apart as sacred.

3. Sanctification is a priestly term, reserved for only the royal family of the Church Age.

4. Jesus' battle field victory when he was proclaimed the victor in the angelic conflict demanded the interruption of the Jewish Age, and the intercalation of the Church Age.

5. Having no royal family demanded the Church Age, so as to call out, and acquire a Royal Family.

6. For this purpose we have been sanctified in Phase I.



Concept

1. Jesus in the KJV is called the set-apart one of God.

Joh 6:69 And we, ourselves, have believed in the past, with the result we now believe, and we have known in the past, with the result we now know, that you are, and keep on being, **the set-apart one of God.**

2. Jesus in the NIV is called the Holy One of God.

Joh 6:69 We believe and know that you are the **Holy One of God.**"

3. We of the Church Age are **Hagios**, i.e., set-apart in union with Christ, as believers.

1Co 1:2 To the church of God in Corinth, to those **sanctified** in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ -- their Lord and ours:

4. The adjective **Hagiotēs** describes the state of the set-apartness.

Heb 12:10 Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may be partakers in his **holiness.**

5. The noun **Hagiosune** refers to the state of being set-apart as Holy, or sacred. The **Sune** suffix refers to a process of growing toward temporal sanctification.

1Th 3:13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in **holiness** before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

6. The noun **Hagiasmos** is used for the forever set-apartness in eternity future, as royal aristocracy.

1Pe 1:2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through **sanctification** of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

7. The verb form of these nouns is **Hagiazo** meaning to set-apart as sacred or holy.

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Eph 5:26 That he might **sanctify** and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

Eph 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy (**Hagios**) and without blemish.

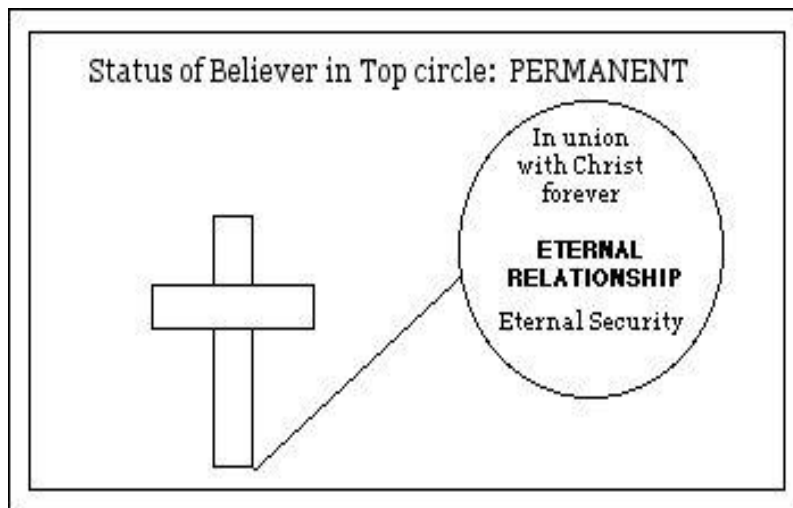
Agents, Targets and Methods of Sanctification

1. The targets for sanctification are the souls of the believers. There are three types of sanctifications: positional, temporal and ultimate.

2. The method of sanctification, as far as Phase I and Phase III are concerned, is faith in Christ.

Heb 10:10 By the which will we **are sanctified** through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

3. The Phase I and Phase III sanctification is a forever condition.



Heb 10:14 For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that **are sanctified**.

4. The primary agent for sanctification is the Holy Spirit of God.

Rom 15:16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

5. The foreknowledge of God is related to the sanctification work of the Holy Spirit.

2Th 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

6. Sanctification in Phase II is performed by Bible doctrine, taught by God the Holy Spirit.

Joh 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Eph 5:26 That he sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word.

7. The agent for Phase III sanctification is the Trinity.

Isa 48:16-17 Come ye near unto me, hear ye this; I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was, there am I: and now the Lord God, and his Spirit, hath sent me. Thus saith the Lord, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

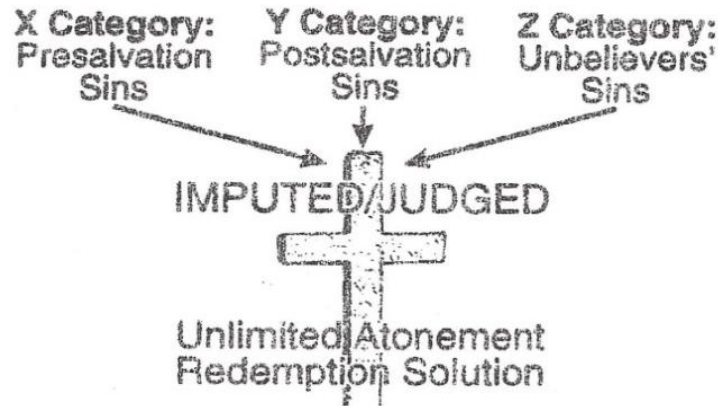
Mechanics of Sanctification

1. At salvation eternal life is imputed to a regenerated human spirit.

2. The result is what we call positional sanctification.

2.1 Keep in mind sin is not an issue here because all sin was imputed to and judged on Christ; this includes the sins of both the believer and the unbeliever.

1Jo 2:2 And He is the propitiation for our sins but not for ours only but for the sins of the entire world.



3. Salvation doctrine is clearly communicated to the believer, by the Holy Spirit, and the believer becomes a possessor of +R, God's perfect righteousness, including all of God's essences.

4. This is a forever condition guaranteeing we will not see the Lake of Fire.

5. This is also where the baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs, and from this point on our life has meaning and purpose.

6. By identification with our Lord's spiritual death, we are free from the indictment of spiritual death, imputed to our Old Sin Natures at birth.

7. Personal sin is not an issue recall.

1Jo 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

8. Positional sanctification is all grace, and we do nothing for it. Even the most carnal Christians receive positional sanctification.

1Co 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,

1Co 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

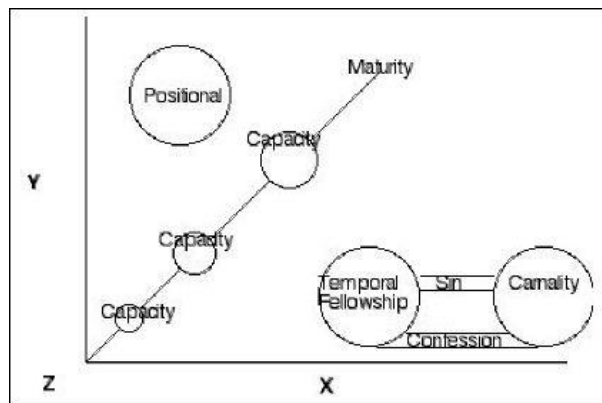
1Co 6:11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

9. Phase II sanctification is called experiential or temporal sanctification, or the new life.

Joh 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Rom 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

10. Experiential sanctification is potential and comes from the consistent use of the two power options.



2Th 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

Joh 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

11. Production in time is a result of Phase II sanctification, but does not produce sanctification.

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Jam 1:21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

12. The purpose of Phase II sanctification is to maximize the flow of blessings from God's justice to the believer, because this glorifies God.

13. Phase II also sets up another afortiori, because if God can provide blessings in time, right smack in the middle of the devil's world, He can with ease provide ultimate Phase III blessings in eternity.

14. Phase II sanctification is also called godliness.

1Ti 4:7 But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thy-self rather unto godliness.

2Pe 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

2Pe 3:11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness.

15. Phase III sanctification

16. This is called ultimate sanctification, since it's the eternal status of all believers.

17. A believer can never lose his or her Phase III sanctification.

Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

1Co 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

18. Ultimate sanctification occurs at death or the Rapture whichever comes first.

1Co 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

1Co 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

1Co 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

1Co 15:54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

1Co 15:55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

1Co 15:56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.
1Co 15:57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

19. The sanctification process for the Church Age believer is completed at the Rapture.

1Th 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

1Th 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

1Th 4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

20. Phase III will be minus all human good. Human good will be burned at the Bema, an event that occurs just after the Rapture.

1Co 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1Co 3:12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay stubble;

1Co 3:13 every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

1Co 3:14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

1Co 3:15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

21. In Phase III, the believer will be perfect in every respect, because we will be transformed from our body of humiliation.

Phi 3:21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

1Th 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1Jo 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it know him not.

1Jo 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

22. Sanctification and the Angelic Conflict.

22.1 The Angelic Conflict is related to all of the three phases of sanctification.

22.2 The first three chapters of the book of Hebrews set the stage for an explanation of the Angelic Conflict and how it relates to the believer's sanctification.

22.3 In Phase I we, as creatures made lower than angels, are placed in union with Christ, thus "positionally" superior to angels.

22.4 In Phase II we contribute to the victory of the Angelic Conflict by winning tactical victories.

22.5 At the end of history, Satan is totally defeated and we are part of this victory celebration.

Col 2:15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.