

SERMON NOTES

SUN SEPTEMBER 3 2017-JONATHAN STEWART

QUOTES FROM SCRIPTURE AND HOW DOES SANCTIFICATION WORK? BY DAVID POWLISON

What is Sanctification?

The on-going process of becoming more like Christ in our mind, will, and emotions.

The Three Parts of Our Being and God's Redemption

SPIRIT (Eternal Being)	SOUL (Mind, Will, Emotions)	BODY (Flesh)
100% Holy	Being Made Holy	100% Sinful -
God's Spirit Indwells	Where Battle Happens	Corrupted Flesh
"Yes"	& Choices are Made to	"No"
How Christ Lives In Us	Walk in Spirit or Flesh	Always Wants Evil
Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Our True Identity	Unique Personality	Temporary Earthsuit

Sanctification – What Changes Us?

1. God Himself Changes Us

"It is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure." (Phil. 2:13)

"First, and foundational to all...He intervenes in your life, turning you from suicidal self-will to the kingdom of life. He raises you in Christ when you are dead in trespasses and sins. He restores hearing when you are deaf (you could not hear him otherwise). He gives sight when you are blind (you could not see him otherwise). He is immediately and personally present, a life-creating voice, a strong and strengthening hand. All good fruit in our lives comes by the Holy Spirit's working on scene."

2. The Word of Truth Changes Us

"The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple." (Psalm 19:7)

"Scripture speaks with a true voice into a world churning with false voices. Scripture reveals innumerable features of God's person, purposes, will, promises, and actions. Scripture clarifies every facet of human experience...I come to know myself truly as I live before the eyes of the One whose opinion matters...Of course Scripture and God work in harmony...all ultimately depend on the hand of God." See John 1 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17

3. Wise People Change Us

"Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise." (Proverbs 13:20)

"Godly growth is most frequently mediated through the gifts and graces of brothers and sisters in Christ. Good worship, preaching, teaching, prayer, and sacraments have radiant fruitful effects. Similarly, the honesty and graciousness, humility and clarity, good sense and conviction of others have radiant, fruitful effects. Good role models make a huge difference. It is a great mercy to know people who deal gently with your ignorance and waywardness, because they know their own weakness and sinfulness, and they know the mercies of Christ."

4. Suffering, Struggle, and Troubles Change Us

"Although he was a Son, He learned obedience through what He suffered." (Hebrews 5:8)

"God works on us in the midst of trouble because trouble catches our attention. Difficulties make us need him. Faith has to sink roots, as profession deepens into reality. Martin Luther called...-affliction, trial, difficulty, struggle - the "touchstone" of Christian experience. He said that hardships were his greatest teacher because they made Scripture and prayer come alive. The difficulties that we experience necessitate grace by awakening a true sense of weakness and need. There is where the Spirit is working. People change because something is hard, not because everything goes well...Christ enters trouble, lives through trouble, is unafraid of trouble, speaks and acts into trouble. Struggles force us to need God. And we learn to love the way Christ loves only by experiencing the hard things that he experienced in loving us...In sum, we face troubles (externally); we are troublesome (interpersonally); and we are troubled (psychologically); struggling both with what we face and with who we are."

5. We Change

"You turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God" (1 Thessalonians 1:9)

"We turn-from darkness to light, from false gods to the only true God, from death to life, from unbelief to faith. You ask for help because you need help. You repent. You believe, trust, seek, take refuge. You are honest. You remember, listen, obey fear, hope, love, give thanks, weep, confess, praise, delight, walk. No one does any of this for you. You are not passive. You are not a puppet or a robot. You are 100% responsible, and yet you are 100 percent dependent on outside help. Any other way of putting it makes you either far too independent or far too passive...These are a way of life."