

## **SANCTIFICATION**

BY PASTOR STOCKMAYER

OH, how much dust has to be cleared away from Christian minds before they perceive the transparency of the Gospel, and the calling to which they are called of God! How few have a thorough view of the simplicity of sanctification! Christ Jesus is our Sanctification. He has of God been made unto us Sanctification, and the Holy Ghost will never come short in showing us, or ever keep back, anything, which Christ has of God been made unto us. He takes of what Christ is, what is in Him, and what He is for us from glory to glory, thus showing us how continuous His work is.

Sanctified, in a word, implies that everything upon which God puts His hand is owned by Him. It is cleansed for Him; it is sanctified. Of old, in the temple, the most holy things, the vessels, were so sanctified that he was accursed who would touch them for profane use; none might put them to personal use, or think to use them for himself. Whatever was devoted to the sanctuary was withdrawn forever from profane use. The last word of condemnation in executing the decree upon Belshazzar, the last drop of his iniquity, was when he fetched the vessels, which had been brought from the temple of Jehovah and used them for himself, his wives, and his concubines.

From this sin the Church of God is not yet purified. The lives of Christians, our own lives,

are thus desecrated, when any day of our Christian life is used for personal use, and not consecrated and respected as holy unto the Lord. But when one has fully repented, and gone on to full faith, taking his standing in Christ Jesus, then all that he is and has is consecrated, sanctified to God for His use, for time and eternity. Our lives are most holy and not to be touched with our own hands nor by the hands of others. All is consecrated. Before Jeremiah was born, God had known of his thoughts and words; from all eternity He had purposed and decided to have this one for His special use and to be for His work. I think I am not going too far.

You will understand me when I say that I think God would not have created man, if beforehand the Son had not been sanctified; so that, whatever might happen with the human race, whether Adam might fail or withstand the temptation, there should be another Adam, a guarantee for the first Adam, who stood before the living God, consecrated and sanctified, ready to come, in whatever form and in whatever time God the Father might will.

The Son did this because He loved the Father. His heart was one with the Father's when He created man. The second Adam was sanctified unto Him for the redemption of the world if it should ever become necessary; for whatsoever might happen to Adam and Eve. "Whom the

Father hath sanctified and sent into the world," that we may become, literally translated, "sanctified ones in truth," or "in the truth."

"We are sanctified ones through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all" (verse 10). This is only another expression for 2 Corinthians 5:14: "For the love of Christ constraineth us, because we thus judge, that One died for all, therefore all died." The apostle does not imagine; he was a man who considered things. He said, "Because we thus judge, that One died for all, therefore all died." What for? "And He died for all, that they which live should no longer live unto themselves, but unto Him who, for their sakes, died and rose again." It is transference of center. We are uncentered from self, no longer self-centered, but sanctified, redeemed from the wickedness of living to ourselves. We are redeemed, not only from the guilt and the wickedness of sin, but our bodies, our mental powers, our money, our time, and our children, are redeemed from self to be for Him: a people unto His Name; God's aristocracy; His nobility. What a glorious purchase! No one knows the worth of it. All glory I must be given to our King, and we must be faithful to Him.

When the soldier is on the battlefield he is separated from his home; even his correspondence is deterred. There is no army in Europe whose soldiers would be wicked enough, in the decisive moment, to think about their own welfare. Their sole ambition is to win the battle for the king or for the emperor. If national inter-

ests, in such times, will allow of men forgetting their own interests, let us forget ours and live for the interests of our King. Oh, how great are the interests of our God for sanctified ones, engaged ones, baptized and sealed by the Spirit of God! We have been wicked enough to lend our mental powers, our time, our hearts, our money, to another. But we are in Christ Jesus. Let our whole heart be His, as sanctified ones for Him, we cannot give ourselves a second time. We cannot have another King.

When the Queen of Sheba came to see Solomon she was filled with wonder, and one might think, in reading this story in I Kings 10 that she would have liked to stand there forever, and not go back to her throne. "Happy are these thy servants which stand continually before thee, and hear thy wisdom." They had given up all to hear what the king had to say, not envying one another, not quarreling, not hesitating when the king pointed out this or that to be done, even though it might be the most perilous commission in the world. They were standing to hear his words and to do them.

We are told that the 13th regiment of Napoleon could not stand long enough, but rushed into the battle. But the servants of Solomon could not get impatient, for the simple reason that if one of them had not the glory to execute an order, he had nevertheless the glory to hear the wisdom of Solomon. Forgotten he might seem to be for a time, while others were being used; but he hears and listens, and begins to forget the

glory of the others, and to take in the glory reserved for him. He drinks in the words of Solomon.

To pass from the type to the anti-type, let us drink in, let us hear, that other Solomon, and take His words to heart in such a way that without the smallest hesitation we may go from a meeting to fulfill most difficult tasks. Let us hear and obey, each one in his time and place; members of the army of sanctified ones, who seek no other glory, who know no other glory, than to be at His disposal every hour and every minute, that He may be glorified. Amen!

From the book, "*Church of God, Awake!*"

Digital Copyright © 2004 by Healing and Revival Press. All rights reserved. Excerpt from 1905 "*Triumphs of Faith*" magazine. Minor typographical and language corrections made.