



What Three Steps Will Get Us to Heaven? (Part I)

Romans 5:1: (NASB) *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*



What does the road to heaven actually look like? If we look across the wide spectrum of Christian beliefs, we will find far more variety in the answer than we might have thought. We would expect all of the answers to include believing in Jesus, and that is a good start. However, the Bible gives us several other qualifiers for being on the road to heaven, and this is where the confusion begins. The fact is that going to heaven is NOT merely about what one believes. As a matter of fact, being on this journey is not something we can just one day decide to do. Heaven IS possible - what steps must be taken to get there?

To begin, let's look at several words that define what God's plan is all about. We will put them in a general order (different ages of time have a different order), and then we will focus on three of those words.

In the Christian Age - where we are now in the stream of time - the application of these words works differently than in the time of resurrection. Today we are going to focus on the Christian Age. Part II will focus on the Christian Age and the ages to come.

SALVATION: This is the BIG PICTURE of the entire Bible. Humanity lost harmony with God by Adam's disobedience. God knew this in advance and was prepared:

Revelation 13:8: (NASB) *All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain.*

From the foundation of the world - God put His plan in place long before it was needed. The Bible is about the journey of man and bringing man back to God.

REDEMPTION: The METHOD by which salvation is accomplished. Justice needed satisfaction and Jesus' perfect human life redeemed Adam, and therefore redeemed all the rest of us:

1 Timothy 2:6: (NASB) *who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.*

JUSTIFICATION: The APPLICATION of the ransom price that comes on an individual basis. Justification is an event. It is the acquitting, the making right of an individual who was previously in the wrong.

Romans 5:1: (NASB) *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,*

RECONCILIATION: The PROCESS of RECONNECTING. Taking those who have been out of harmony with God and teaching them what it means to truly be in harmony with Him:

2 Corinthians 5:18: (NASB) *Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation...*



Reconciliation can only occur if justification is in place. Reconciliation is the legal action to complete the justification - the acquittal process.

SANCTIFICATION: The **PROCESS** of **BECOMING HOLY**. This process can at times begin even before justification is put in place.

1 Thessalonians 4:4-5: (NASB) *⁴that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, ⁵not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;*

Harmony with God is a start, but to be useful to Him, one must also grow into the holiness of what it means to be children of God.

GLORIFICATION: The **RESULT** of **JUSTIFICATION**, **RECONCILIATION** and **SANCTIFICATION**. God's plan has always been to have an eternal family both in heaven and on earth:

Romans 8:18: (NASB) *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.*

God's plan can be summed up in six words that begin with His ancient intentions and end with His results.

SALVATION
REDEMPTION
JUSTIFICATION
RECONCILIATION
SANCTIFICATION
GLORIFICATION

**If there are six things that show us God's plan,
why are we talking about only three steps to Heaven?**

To say there are three steps to get to heaven is an oversimplification.

In this two-part series, we chose to focus on three aspects of the pathway to life that seem to be confusing even though they are talked about regularly:

JUSTIFICATION
SANCTIFICATION
GLORIFICATION

Howie, our frequent listener, brother and friend from New Zealand, was the one who suggested our topic for tonight.

We will play several audio clips from various preachers and look at their approach to justification and sanctification. Also, we will take a deeper look at what is generally accepted and explain how we differ.



Defined, What is Justification, Pastor Greg Laurie

- A word that Paul has made great use of in Romans is justification. And you remember that it is a legal term that speaks of a number of things, including the forgiveness of one's sin and the removal of the penalty for that sin, but then God has also put the righteousness of Christ into our spiritual bank account. We've been justified, and the reason we've been justified is because we accepted God's conditions of knowing Him, which are unconditional surrender. But we don't come to God and dictate what we're going to give up or not give up, or what we're going to do or not going to do. God basically says, "Here's the bottom line: you are completely sinful and separated from Me and you've never done anything that is even remotely good enough to get you close to heaven, but I've loved you. And if you will unconditionally accept this fact and repent of your sin and come to Me, I will forgive you." Well, if we've accepted that we've been justified.*



He did say it is a legal term, and we agree.

JUSTIFICATION: We believe the actual definition of justification can get lost in the details.

Primarily two words in the New Testament are used, <1344> and <1347>, which have a subtle but significant difference.

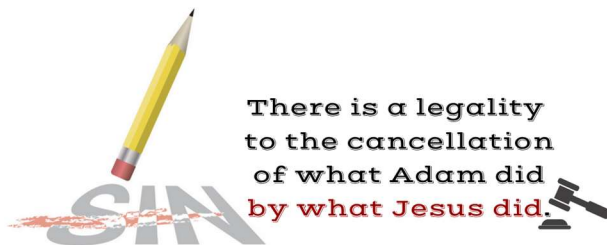
Another word, <1345>, is translated as *justification* twice. It is in one of the most often-quoted Scriptures when talking about the ransom price of Jesus.

Justification: Strongs #1345 *dikaionoma*; from #1344; an equitable deed; by implication, a statute or decision

The Apostle Paul is reasoning in a legal way that Jesus is the centerpiece for the redemption of all mankind:

Romans 5:16-18: (KJV) ¹⁶And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto **justification <1345>**. ¹⁷For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Therefore as by the offence of one, judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one (Jesus) the free gift came upon all men unto **justification <1347>** of life.

By the offence of one, judgment came upon all men to condemnation - every human being was born in sin because of Adam. Through Jesus, the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.



There is a legality to the cancellation of what Adam did by what Jesus did.

Everyone suffers because of Adam; therefore, everyone will receive justification by Jesus. It is a legal representation of the equity of God's plan. God's love is founded in justice. This is why the need for Jesus' sacrifice was important.

Psalms 89:14: (KJV) *Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne...*

Justification: Strongs #1344 *dikaioo*; from #1342; to render (i.e. show or regard as) just or innocent

Justification: Strongs #1347 *dikaiosis*; from #1344; acquittal

When someone is acquitted <1347>, their liability is taken away, they are released from a sentence.



The first word <1344> has two shades of meaning. It could mean released OR simply being regarded as though innocent.

Justification is an event. It is the acquitting, the making right of an individual who was previously in the wrong. The person does not *earn* justification or acquittal; it is given to him.

Who makes us right? God does. He uses Jesus' blood to satisfy the requirement of justice:

Romans 8:33: (NASB) *Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies <1344>*.

How does God do this? There is nothing WE can do to earn acquittal from Adam's sin:

Romans 3:20,22-28: (KJV) ²⁰Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be **justified <1344>** in His sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin (no one except Jesus could keep the Law; they could not actually be acquitted). ²²Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: ²³For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

There are no works that any of us could ever do to earn true justification. There is only one way justification actually happens:

²⁴Being **justified <1344>** freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: ²⁵whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation (satisfaction, giving us the ability to stand in God's favor again) through faith in his blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past (especially the sin of Adam), through the forbearance of God; ²⁶to declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just, and the **justifier <1344>** of him which believeth in Jesus. ²⁷Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. ²⁸Therefore we conclude that a man is **justified <1344>** by faith without the deeds of the law.

Is man justified by faith or by the blood of Jesus? Yes! We must have the sacrifice and blood of Jesus to be acquitted, but *the faith in his blood* that draws us to God puts us in a place where God can justify us individually at this time.



The phrase "Once in grace, always in grace" - (if you have been saved, nothing can happen to you) - is a misapplication of what justification means.

For more on this topic, please search our archives for Ep. 944: Once Saved, Are You Set for Life?

Justification means we have been released from the sin of Adam. We are "living in Christ" and are now responsible for our lives. We are no longer condemned under Adam. More on this soon.

The sacrifice of Jesus has been applied to us as individuals. This is a big deal!



Justification Explanation:

To be justified in the fullest sense is to be acquitted.

Only Jesus' ransom

has the capacity to acquit any imperfect human from the death sentence of Adam's sin.

To actually be acquitted for something you have no power to change on your own is magnificent mercy!



If being acquitted from Adam's sin is only through Jesus, then why was Abraham justified by faith?

The question of Abraham being justified by faith is crucial. It not only seems to contradict what the Scriptures just showed us, it also brings the matter of faith to the forefront. God decides who will be justified and when. Jesus' ransom is the tool that unlocks justification. Where does faith fit in?

 **Defined, NCC Q32: What Do Justification and Sanctification Mean, The Gospel Coalition**

- *Justification is the act of God by which He declares us to be just or righteous or perfect, because by faith alone we have been united to Jesus Christ, who is perfect, who is just, who is righteous. So, justification is a legal standing before God owing to a spiritual union with Jesus which is owing to faith alone. You don't work yourself into or perform your way into this standing with God. He declares you to be perfect because of your union with Christ, and that happens by faith alone.*

We appreciate the way he described justification, but we do take issue with his thought that it declares us to be perfect. What it does declare is WE ARE NO LONGER LIABLE to the sin of Adam. That does *not* mean we are perfect. When we sin, we have an advocate (Christ Jesus) with the Father. If we were perfect, we would not sin and would not need an advocate.

For more on this topic, please search our archives for Ep. 1086: Are Jesus' Ransom and Our Salvation the Same?

Romans 4:1-3: (KJV) *¹What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? ²For if Abraham were **justified <1344>** by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. ³For what saith the Scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was **counted <3049>** unto him for **righteousness <1343>** (also translated "justified").*

Abraham was *not* acquitted for Adam's sin. Jesus had not yet paid the ransom price. *Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.*

Counted: Strong's #3049 *logizomai*; to take an inventory, i.e. estimate

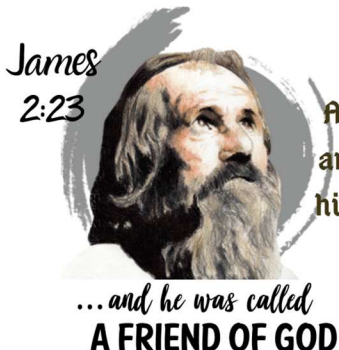
God was *estimating* righteousness for Abraham because of his faith. Abraham was not acquitted of Adam's sin, but he was heading in that direction.

Here is where Romans was quoting from:

Genesis 15:6: (NASB) *Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.*

God treated Abraham as though he was righteous.

Abraham was **considered right and not actually acquitted**, as evidenced by his continual need to sacrifice to God. His obedience (with Isaac, leaving his country, etc.) and sacrifices gave him access to this justification.





There is justification to “friendship” with God and there is justification to life. All those faithful to God before Pentecost were justified to friendship with God. Justification to life could only come after Jesus’ sacrifice.

Justification can never come without a blood sacrifice. In Genesis 22, Abraham was asked to sacrifice his son, Isaac. In place of Isaac, God provided a ram in the thicket. Abraham’s justification to friendship with God was shown in the sacrifice of that ram, because blood was shed. There was value in the life of the ram - it cost something. In the Old Testament, “reckoned” justification was achieved through animal sacrifices.

This atonement was conditional, as the sacrifices needed to be continually made year after year:

Hebrews 10:1-4: (NASB) ¹For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near. ²Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, because the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have had consciousness of sins? ³But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins year by year. ⁴For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

This helps us understand the difference between friends of God versus being sons of God living after the time of Jesus.

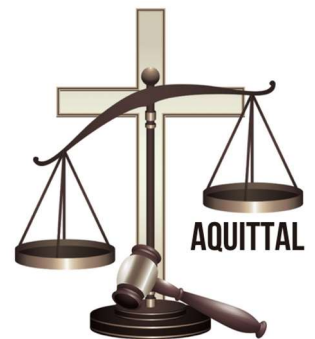
Trish asks: Because God considered Abraham justified, would he be resurrected if Jesus had not died? Did that justification give Abraham a right to life?

No, even though God “reckoned” or “considered” them justified, they had to offer the sacrifices *continually year by year*. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Even though God granted Abraham that beautiful and close relationship with Him, it would not have given him a resurrection to life, because Jesus had not yet paid the sacrifice for the sin of Adam.

The Apostle Paul is emphatic about justification and Jesus’ followers:

Romans 4:24-25: (NASB) ²⁴but for our sake also, to whom it (righteous behavior) will be credited, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵he who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our **justification <1347>**. Acquittal!

Faith is a foundational necessity. To receive the privilege of the gift of justification, faith is necessary on our part. At this time, faith is required to come to God through Christ. Faith does not *earn* us justification, but we must offer faith to God.



Romans 5:1-2: (NASB) ¹Therefore, having been **justified <1344>** by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

That peace with God is **RECONCILIATION**, meaning we have legally come into favor with God. We still sin, but God can now work with us.

²through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.





We are now covered by the robe of Christ's righteousness:

Isaiah 61:10: (ASV) *I will greatly rejoice in Jehovah, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness...*

The ACQUITTAL is pictured by covering our sinful selves with the robe of Christ's righteousness. As long as we wear that robe, we have the privilege of being considered "clean" before God.

Only being called by God and accepting that call brings the privilege of the offer of justification. It only comes to a select few. (In Part II, we discuss how everyone else can receive justification.)

John 6:44: (NASB) *No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.*

The first step: God has to draw us to Him.

The second step: Something WE must do:

Luke 14:27-28: (NASB) *²⁷Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it.*

Once we are offered justification, we have to count the cost and make a choice if we want to be a footstep follower of Jesus. We make the choice once offered justification.



(Source: Bible Commentary by C.T. Russell) Justification is represented as a robe of righteousness, of pure linen, clean and white, by which the Lord covers the blemishes and imperfections of all whom he accepts through faith in his precious blood.

That is a clear description of the cleanliness Jesus brings us. It does not make us perfect, but it covers us with the Jesus' perfection. We are no longer held liable for the sin of Adam.



Justification Explanation:

Actual justification brings serious personal responsibility for living a godly life.

While we do not earn justification, we must live in accordance with its privilege.

The idea of acquittal is, at least at this point, a very exclusive opportunity. We need to take it seriously.



How would we sum up justification and relate it to sanctification? What are the connections?

Applying the merit of the sacrifice of Jesus to an individual is the only means by which true justification can be attained. Once made right, that person is now responsible to live in accordance with their new standing.

SANCTIFICATION

Sanctification is not about being *made right*; it is about learning to *live right*.

Here are the two New Testament words for sanctification:

Sanctification: Strong's #37 *hagiazō*; to make holy, i.e. (ceremonially) purify or consecrate; (mentally) to venerate

Sanctification: Strong's #38 *hagiasmos*; from #37; properly, purification, i.e. (the state) purity

In God's sight, something purified is considered holy to Him. What does this mean for us?



Defined, NCC Q32: *What Do Justification and Sanctification Mean, John Piper, The Gospel Coalition*

- *Sanctification is the act of God by which He, through His Spirit and His word, is conforming you little by little, or in big steps, into the image of His son. So, we are really becoming in our behavior righteous; really overcoming imperfections in our sanctification.*

It is a step-by-step process - an action - of drawing us to a higher behavior.

Rick: Jonathan, we have talked about your story in the past. When God called you, you recognized the call and what did you do?



Jonathan: I accepted the call, because I needed help. I knew I was worthless without the Lord in my life and needed to move forward. Rick, I had a lot to learn. I needed to learn how to behave, what God expected of me, and it was a process. It is a lifelong process.

Rick: At some point, you answered that call, and early on in this process we presume God gave you His Spirit to understand more fully. God giving us His Spirit is the "stamp" of justification in this age. Jonathan, at that point, would you say you knew everything, you knew how to live, you understood the depths of right and wrong?

Jonathan: I was just beginning to learn. I had a long way to go. When people would ask me how they could pray for me, I would ask, "Pray for me to have wisdom, because I want to live my life the way God wants me to."

Rick: That was the process of sanctification. You were already made right because God's Spirit was given to you. You had to take the raw material of being acquitted from Adam's sin and go to work.



Sanctify

Sanctification is a process.

The setting apart of one (or many) for a holy purpose.
To be sanctified is to be considered or to be made holy.

Sanctification opens the door for a relationship with God, and its process actually begins before one is justified. However, it is not fully viable without an act of justification being first put in place.

Rick: Jonathan, before God granted you His Spirit you were trying to make your life better.

Jonathan: I didn't know how. I was praying and asking God to give me direction. When I began to understand God's truth, I began to understand how, but I did not have His Spirit because I had not yet made a commitment.

Rick: You were in the process of moving toward God. That is the sanctification process.

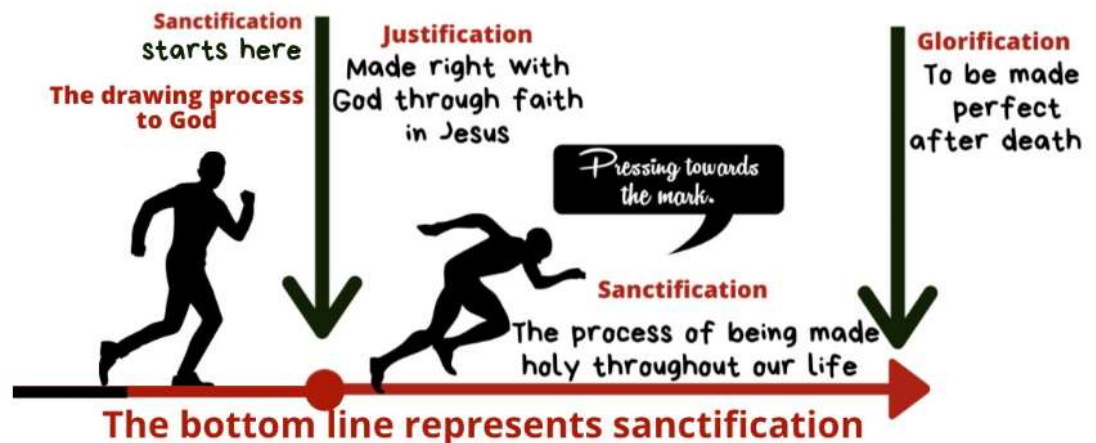
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1 Corinthians 6:11: (NASB) *Such were some of you; but you were washed (eluding to John's baptism), but you were **sanctified** <37>, but you were **justified** <1344> in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.*

Rick: Continuing with your example, Jonathan: You made a commitment in your heart; first to live righteously, and then to live spiritually. You were washed and then sanctified - you started the work, the process. Then you answered the call, God granted you His spirit, and you were justified.



This process of sanctification begins with God drawing an individual or group to Him to be sanctified. The drawing process is a grooming process, an introductory time of preparation in which the benefits of sanctification are being revealed to the one who is drawn.

A picture of the sanctification process before receiving God's Spirit is found in the Parable of the Sower:

Matthew 13:22-23: (NASB) ²²And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. ²³And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.

In this example, the first man hears the word and has the potential to be fruitful but is choked out by the thorns of life - *the worry of the world and deceitfulness of wealth*. The sanctification process was interrupted and never completed.

The other individual *on the good soil bears fruit*. The sanctification process continued with bearing more and more fruit.

Sanctification first appears in Genesis 2 as a declared act of God:

Genesis 2:3: (NASB) Then God blessed the seventh day and **sanctified <6942>** it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

Sanctify: Strongs #6942; *qadash* make, pronounce or observe as clean

God set aside the seventh day for the purpose of holiness and reflection.



Sanctification can never exist without blood sacrifice.

Sanctification next appears after Israel is delivered from Egypt:

Exodus 13:1-2: (NASB) ¹Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²**Sanctify <6942>** to Me every firstborn, the first offspring of every womb among the sons of Israel, both of man and beast; it belongs to Me.

The Israelites just had the Passover and put the blood over their doorposts as instructed so their firstborn would not be put to death. They were freed from slavery and God sanctified them (legally set them apart), because the blood price was paid.



Sanctification needs legal permission to go into practice. For us as Christians, WE ARE NOT JUSTIFIED BEFORE WE ARE SANCTIFIED. Because the price was already paid (by Jesus' blood and sacrifice), it is now applied to us. This is where our sanctification process can begin.

Earlier, we said the process of sanctification begins with God drawing an individual or group; the group we are referring to is the Jewish nation. Once delivered from Egypt, the people of Israel had to be "sanctified" to be able to go before God.

Israel's path to God's favor was through consecration/sanctification:

Exodus 19:10-11: (NASB) ¹⁰The LORD also said to Moses, Go to the people and **consecrate <6942>** them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments; ¹¹and let them be ready for the third day, for on the third day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.

A critical part of Israel being sanctified, preparing to go before God, was being physically clean. Israel's physical preparation for cleaning themselves - *washing their garments* - is a picture of our spiritual preparation of being clean.

For any human being,
being set apart for a holy purpose
is not as simple as making a decision and acting on it. It needs redemption first, time, attention and the grace of God to truly work.



Sanctification Explanation

How does sanctification work?

Does it happen before we are justified? Who does the sanctifying?

Of the parts of God's plan we have discussed, sanctification is in many ways the most complicated. The fact that it is a PROCESS is not easily understood by most. The way sanctification happens adds to the confusion, because it comes from many different sources.

 **Defined, What is Sanctification, Three Minute Theology**

- *Sanctification refers to the process whereby Christians become holy. It is about acquiring and living in holiness, and the Bible is quite clear that this is essential to the Christian life. In one place it says it as bluntly as can be, that without holiness no one can see God. The challenge here is that often the language of holiness conjures up for us images of somber people who have a long list of things they do and don't do and who feel they need to impose this list on everyone else. But this is not how the Bible conceives of holiness. The Bible continually describes it as something that God does in us and through us, as He claims us for Himself and works His Holiness out in us. In one place it says it like this, "May the God of peace Himself sanctify you through and through." In this sense, holiness is an objective characteristic or quality that God imparts to those who belong to Jesus, not a subjective quality that we obtain through moral effort. We are, in one sense, passive recipients of our holiness; and yet at the same time, holiness is, in fact, about a way of life. It is about men and women actively thinking and speaking and living in a way that reflects God's own holiness.*

There were some good thoughts in the audio clip, but we believe we must contribute to be sanctified. God does not just blanket us with sanctification. He gives us the opportunities and methods of sanctification for us to walk in.



A DIFFERENT THOUGHT

How do we become sanctified?

First, God's word sanctifies us. This begins BEFORE we are justified and accelerates after, which many Christians do not realize.

Jesus' prayer for all his followers just before his crucifixion:

John 17:15-17: (NASB) ¹⁵I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. ¹⁷**Sanctify <37>** them in the truth; Your word is truth.

- ◆ God's word sanctifies us.

Romans 6:19: (NASB) I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in further lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in **sanctification <38>**.

- ◆ We are to sanctify ourselves.

We are personally responsible to present ourselves so we can have sanctification result from our actions. It takes work, thought, focus, prayer and encouragement from others.

Sanctification is not just from God's word; it comes from our efforts to live up to what we learn in God's word.

This effort is a continual choice:

1 Thessalonians 4:3-7: (NASB) ³For this is the will of God, your **sanctification <38>**; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in **sanctification <38>** and honor, ⁵not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God (live a morally correct life and desire to do the will of God); ⁶and that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is the avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned you. ⁷For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in **sanctification <38>**.

We will make mistakes. When we do go down the wrong path, God will chasten and discipline us to get us back on the right path. We are not perfect, and we have to grow and change.



Once justified, we are no longer condemned to death because of Adam. This is why true Christians go to heaven. The adamic sin (that which we inherited through Adam) has been removed/covered by the robe of Christ's righteousness. We now need to be faithful unto death and receive a crown of life.

We are sanctified by the blood of Jesus - by the act of justification:

Hebrews 10:9-10: (NASB) ⁹then he said, Behold, I have come to do your will. He takes away the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰By this will we have been **sanctified <37>** through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

- ◆ We are sanctified by the blood of Jesus.

Besides being sanctified by the blood of Jesus, sanctification is a process that includes our heart, our mind and our desires. Many Christians miss the fact that there is an incredible effort and change we must continue to make. We try to live to a higher standard.



God's Spirit sanctifies us:

2 Thessalonians 2:13: (NASB) *But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through **sanctification** <38> by the Spirit and faith in the truth.*

- ◆ We are sanctified by God's Spirit.

Sanctification is a multifaceted personal development program. It is an OPPORTUNITY from God that gives us many ways to work on being sanctified.

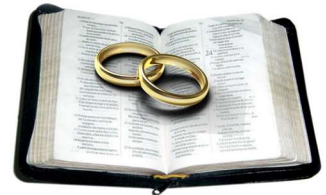
Jesus sanctifies us by using God's word:

Ephesians 5:25-27: (NASB) *²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶so that he might **sanctify** <37> her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷that he might present to himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.*

Everything about Jesus (in his life, his death and as our risen Lord) was for our being set apart for a holy purpose - to be the bride of Christ.

We can even have a sanctifying effect on others:

1 Corinthians 7:14: (NASB) *For the unbelieving husband is **sanctified** <37> through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is **sanctified** <37> through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are **holy** <40>.*



Holy: Strongs #40 *hagios*; sacred (pure, morally blameless)

Many Christians believe sanctification is only applied to the actual believers and followers of Christ. **1 Corinthians 7:14** says if we were married and had a family before coming to Christ but have an unbelieving spouse, the spouse is sanctified through her believing spouse. The spouse is looked at in a holier way than he or she would have been.

Trish asks: Does that mean the spouse and children are justified, too?

No, they are not justified, but they have a level of holiness because of the believing spouse's relationship with God. If you are in this situation, be faithful to your marriage and to God and Christ, and your family will be blessed.

To be set apart for a holy purpose
is an aspect of a life change that requires attention
from many sources to be able to be accomplished.



Sanctification Explanation

In God's plan, we can be made right before God now if we are called and given God's Spirit: justification. Then we have to go through the broad process of changing our lives to be in line with God: sanctification.





Next week: Where does glorification fit into this picture? How do justification and sanctification bring glorification? Is it the same process or a different process for those to later be resurrected who were not true Christians? The process is similar, but we will look at some of the differences.

*So, what three steps will get us to heaven?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!*



Join us next week for our podcast on January 20, 2020
Ep. 1009: What Three Steps Will Get Us to Heaven? (Part II)

Bonus Material!

The truth doesn't have to do with cruelty, the truth has to do with mercy. — Ken Kesey

Justification word study:

Justification: Strongs #1344 *dikaioo*; to render (i.e. show or regard as) just or innocent

Justification: Strongs #1345 *dikaioma*; from #1344;
an equitable deed; by implication, a statute or decision

Justification: Strongs #1347 *dikaiosis*; from #1344; acquittal (for Christ's sake)

All uses of Strongs #1344:

Matthew 11:19: (KJV) *The son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is **justified <1344>** of her children.*

Matthew 12:37: (KJV) *For by thy words thou shalt be **justified <1344>**, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.*

Luke 7:29: (KJV) *And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, **justified <1344>** God, being baptized with the baptism of John.*

Luke 7:35: (KJV) *But wisdom is **justified <1344>** of all her children.*

Luke 10:29: (KJV) *But he, willing to **justify <1344>** himself, said unto Jesus, and who is my neighbour?*

Luke 16:15: (KJV) *And he said unto them, Ye are they which **justify <1344>** yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.*



Luke 18:14: (KJV) *I tell you, this man went down to his house **justified <1344>** rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.*

Acts 13:39: (KJV) *And by him all that believe are **justified <1344>** from all things, from which ye could not be **justified <1344>** by the law of Moses.*

Romans 2:13: (KJV) *For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be **justified <1344>**.*

Romans 3:4: (KJV) *God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be **justified <1344>** in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.*

Romans 3:20: (KJV) *Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be **justified <1344>** in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*

Romans 3:24: (KJV) *Being **justified <1344>** freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:*

Romans 3:26: (KJV) *To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just, and the **justifier <1344>** of him which believeth in Jesus.*

Romans 3:28: (KJV) *Therefore we conclude that a man is **justified <1344>** by faith without the deeds of the law.*

Romans 3:30: (KJV) *Seeing it is one God, which shall **justify <1344>** the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.*

Romans 4:2: (KJV) *For if Abraham were **justified <1344>** by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God.*

Romans 4:5: (KJV) *But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that **justifieth <1344>** the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.*

Romans 5:1: (KJV) *Therefore being **justified <1344>** by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*

Romans 5:9: (KJV) *Much more then, **being <1344>** now **justified <1344>** by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.*

Romans 6:7: (KJV) *For he that is dead is **freed <1344>** from sin.*

Romans 8:30: (KJV) *Moreover whom He did predestinate, them He also called: and whom He called, them he also **justified <1344>**: and whom he **justified <1344>**,*

Romans 8:33: (KJV) *Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that **justifieth <1344>**.*

1 Corinthians 4:4: (KJV) *For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby **justified <1344>**: but he that judgeth me is the Lord.*

1 Corinthians 6:11: (KJV) *And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are **justified <1344>** in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*

Galatians 2:16: (KJV) *Knowing that a man is not **justified <1344>** by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be **justified <1344>** by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be **justified <1344>**.*



Galatians 2:17: (KJV) But if, while we seek to be **justified <1344>** by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid.

Galatians 3:8: (KJV) And the scripture, foreseeing that God would **justify <1344>** the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

Galatians 3:11: (KJV) But that no man is **justified <1344>** by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, the just shall live by faith.

Galatians 3:24: (KJV) Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be **justified <1344>** by faith.

Galatians 5:4: (KJV) Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are **justified <1344>** by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

1 Timothy 3:16: (KJV) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, **justified <1344>** in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Titus 3:7: (KJV) That being **justified by <1344>** His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

James 2:21: (KJV) Was not Abraham our father **justified <1344>** by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?

James 2:24: (KJV) Ye see then how that by works a man is **justified <1344>**, and not by faith only.

James 2:25: (KJV) Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot **justified <1344>** by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?

Revelation 22:11: (KJV) He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be **righteous <1344>** still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

All uses of Strong's #1345:

Luke 1:6: (KJV) And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and **ordinances <1345>** of the Lord blameless.

Romans 1:32: (KJV) Who knowing the **judgment <1345>** of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

Romans 2:26: (KJV) Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the **righteousness <1345>** of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?

Romans 5:16: (KJV) And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto **justification <1345>**.

Romans 5:18: (KJV) Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the **righteousness <1345>** of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

Romans 8:4: (KJV) That the **righteousness <1345>** of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Hebrews 9:1: (KJV) Then verily the first covenant had also **ordinances <1345>** of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary.



Hebrews 9:10: (KJV) *Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal **ordinances** <1345>, imposed on them until the time of reformation.*

Revelation 15:4: (KJV) *Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy **judgments** <1345> are made manifest.*

Revelation 19:8: (KJV) *And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the **righteousness** <1345> of saints.*

All uses of 1347:

Romans 4:25: (KJV) *Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our **justification** <1347>.*

Romans 5:18: (KJV) *Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto **justification** <1347> of life.*

Sanctification word study:

Sanctification: Strongs #37 *hagiazō*; to make holy, i.e. (ceremonially) purify or consecrate; (mentally) to venerate: King James Version - hallow, be holy, sanctify

Sanctification: Strongs #38 *hagiasmos*; from #37; properly, purification, i.e. (the state) purity; concretely (by Hebraism) a purifier

All uses of Strongs <37>:

Matthew 6:9: (KJV) *After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, **Hallowed** <37> be thy name.*

Matthew 23:17: (KJV) *Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that **sanctifieth** <37> the gold?*

Matthew 23:19: (KJV) *Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that **sanctifieth** <37> the gift?*

Luke 11:2: (KJV) *And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, **Hallowed** <37> be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.*

John 10:36: (KJV) *Say ye of him, whom the Father hath **sanctified** <37>, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?*

John 17:17: (KJV) ***Sanctify** <37> them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*

John 17:19: (KJV) *And for their sakes I **sanctify** <37> myself, that they also might be **sanctified** <37> through the truth.*

Acts 20:32: (KJV) *And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are **sanctified** <37>.*

Acts 26:18: (KJV) *To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are **sanctified** <37> by faith that is in me.*

Romans 15:16: (KJV) *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** <37> by the Holy Ghost.*



1 Corinthians 1:2: (KJV) *Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are **sanctified <37>** 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:*

1 Corinthians 6:11: (KJV) *And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are **sanctified <37>**, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*

1 Corinthians 7:14: (KJV) *For the unbelieving husband is **sanctified <37>** by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is **sanctified <37>** by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy.*

Ephesians 5:26: (KJV) *That he might **sanctify <37>** and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,*

1 Thessalonians 5:23: (KJV) *And the very God of peace **sanctify <37>** you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Timothy 4:5: (KJV) *For it is **sanctified <37>** by the word of God and prayer.*

2 Timothy 2:21: (KJV) *If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, **sanctified <37>**, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.*

Hebrews 2:11: (KJV) *For both he that **sanctifieth <37>** and they who are **sanctified <37>** are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,*

Hebrews 9:13: (KJV) *For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, **sanctifieth <37>** to the purifying of the flesh:*

Hebrews 10:10: (KJV) *By the which will we are **sanctified <37>** through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

Hebrews 10:14: (KJV) *For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are **sanctified <37>**.*

Hebrews 10:29: (KJV) *Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden underfoot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was **sanctified <37>**, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?*

Hebrews 13:12: (KJV) *Wherefore Jesus also, that he might **sanctify <37>** the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.*

1 Peter 3:15: (KJV) *But **sanctify <37>** the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:*

Jude 1:1: (KJV) *Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are **sanctified <37>** by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:*

Revelation 22:11: (KJV) *He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be **holy <37>** still.*

All uses of Strong's <38>:

Romans 6:19: (KJV) *I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto **holiness <38>**.*



Romans 6:22: (KJV) *But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto **holiness** <38>, and the end everlasting life.*

1 Corinthians 1:30: (KJV) *But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and **sanctification** <38>, and redemption:*

1 Thessalonians 4:3: (KJV) *For this is the will of God, even your **sanctification** <38>, that ye should abstain from fornication:*

1 Thessalonians 4:4: (KJV) *That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in **sanctification** <38> and honour;*

1 Thessalonians 4:7: (KJV) *For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto **holiness** <38>.*

2 Thessalonians 2:13: (KJV) *But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through **sanctification** <38> of the Spirit and belief of the truth:*

1 Timothy 2:15: (KJV) *Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and **holiness** <38> with sobriety.*

Hebrews 12:14: (KJV) *Follow peace with all men, and **holiness** <38>, without which no man shall see the Lord:*

1 Peter 1:2: (KJV) *Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through **sanctification** <38> of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.*

