

Grace to Justify and Sanctify

March 24, 2019

Ephesians 2:8-10 ESV

[JUSTIFICATION]

8 For **by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,**
9 **not a result of works, so that no one may boast.**

[SANCTIFICATION]

10 For **we are his workmanship (poiēma - a product, thing that is made, workmanship), created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.**

- **Two dynamics of salvation taught in the New Testament:**
 - **Justification** - the restoration of right relationship with God - our sinfulness removed and God's righteousness imputed as a free gift of God's grace and mercy in Jesus Christ dying on the cross in our place, received by faith alone, not by any works or merits of our own
 - **Sanctification** - the progressive process of transformation by God's discipline (chastening), whereby we are separated from sin and set apart to God, sinning less and obeying more, accomplished by the Word and Spirit of God in the Christian's heart and life
- **We are not saved (justified) by works, but we are saved (justified) unto, or for, works (sanctified).**

"Sanctification begins in regeneration. The Spirit of God infuses into man that new living principle by which he becomes 'a new creature' in Christ Jesus. This work, which begins in the new birth, is carried on in two ways: mortification, whereby the lusts of the flesh are subdued and kept under; and vivification, by which the life which God has put within us is made to be a well of water springing up unto everlasting life. This is carried on every day in what is called 'perseverance,' by which the Christian is preserved and continued in a gracious state, and is made to abound in good works unto the praise and glory of God; and it culminates or comes to perfection, in 'glory,' when the soul, being thoroughly purged, is caught up to dwell with holy beings at the right hand of the Majesty on high." —Charles Spurgeon

- **We are JUSTIFIED to be SANCTIFIED. SANCTIFICATION is the authentication and consummation of our JUSTIFICATION. The same grace which JUSTIFIES is the same grace that SANCTIFIES. SANCTIFICATION and JUSTIFICATION are inseparable - without one, you don't have the other. Without a healthy balance of both, you have neither.**

John 15:2 ESV

2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

1 John 3:6 ESV

6 No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him.

"We must realize that sanctification flows from justification, but that both are a work of grace. To paraphrase Calvin, to have Christ is to have all of Christ - His justifying grace as well as His sanctifying

grace, lest we rend Christ in two."

—A Puritan Theology, Joel R. Beeke & Mark Jones, *The Puritans on Living in Christ*, p. 528

"Many assume that justification by faith in Christ does away with the need to be sanctified. Of such persons [John] Owen wrote, 'There is no imagination wherewith man is besotted more foolish, none so pernicious, as this, that persons not purified, not sanctified, not made holy, in this life, should afterwards be taken into that state of blessedness which consists in the enjoyment of God.'" —A Puritan Theology, Joel R. Beeke & Mark Jones, "The Puritans on Living in Christ" p. 528 (John Owen 1616 - 1683, Puritan Theologian)

"If you show me a man deliberately living an unholy and licentious life, and yet boasting that his sins are forgiven, I answer, 'He is under a ruinous delusion, and is not forgiven at all.'...Pardon of sin and love of sin are like oil and water...they will never go together." —J.C. Ryle

- **SANCTIFICATION is nothing produced or maintained by our own self-effort. Our SANCTIFICATION is by faith just as our JUSTIFICATION.**

"If we are true believers, we must cultivate holiness in Christ's strength (Eph 1:4). Through Christ, God makes us holy and calls us to pursue holiness in daily life (Phil. 3:12). Do not be deceived; without holiness, no one shall see the Lord (Heb 12:14). The battle for holiness, therefore, is always a major part of a believer's life, for God says, "Be ye holy, for I am holy (1 Peter 1:16)."

—A Puritan Theology, Joel R. Beeke & Mark Jones, *The Puritans on Living in Christ*, p. 529

Hebrews 12:2 ESV

2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith...

Philippians 1:6 ESV

6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

"Grace is not simply leniency when we have sinned. Grace is the enabling gift of God not to sin. Grace is power, not just pardon. Therefore the effort we make to obey God is not an effort done in our own strength, but in the strength which God supplies." —John Piper

James 2:14-26 ESV

14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?

- CSB "Can such faith save him?"
- Faith which does not produce change and corresponding action is worthless and dead. It is not Biblical faith.

15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food,

16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

18 But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

19 You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe--and shudder!

- *There is a quasi-faith which acknowledges the factual existence of God, but it is not a Biblical faith, a saving faith, a personal faith which surrenders to the reality of what it acknowledges.*
- *Like the faith of demons, there is a faith without surrender in the existence of God. But it is not Biblical faith, not saving faith, not faith with works (corresponding action).*

"A faith which works not for purification will work for putrefaction. Unless our faith makes us pine after holiness, it is no better than the faith of devils, and perhaps it is not even so good as that. A holy man is the workmanship of the Holy Spirit." —Charles Spurgeon

20 Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?

21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar?

22 You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works;

23 and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"--and he was called a friend of God.

24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

25 And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way?

26 For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

- *We are not saved by works, but we cannot be saved without works.*
- *For faith to be saving faith, it must be faith that is alive, energized and active. Otherwise, it is dead faith.*
- *Faith is not an empty creed, dogma without substance, words without power or doctrine without accountability.*
- *Faith is the Divine spark of God's Word illuminated by the Holy Spirit, birthing God's life and nature in the heart.*

Romans 10:14-18 ESV

14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?"

17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

18 But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have, for "Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world."

Isaiah 55:10-11 ESV

10 For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

John 17:17 ESV

17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 ESV

13 And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

Colossians 1:5-6 ESV

5 *Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel,*

6 *which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing--as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth...*

Do Not Be Deceived

There are multitudes who:

- *Want to be spared from judgement and Hell*
- *See the Church as a service center for their needs and crises*
- *Have the faith of demons and not saving faith*
- *Have no interest in surrendering to the Lordship of Jesus or the chastening of sanctification*

2 Timothy 2:20-21 ESV

20 Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable.

21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

Ephesians 5:5-7 ESV

5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

7 Therefore do not become partners with them.

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 ESV

9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, 10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

1 John 3:7-10 ESV

7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

8 Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

9 No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God.

10 By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.