

# Nuts and Bolts of Sanctification - Mortification

March 31, 2019

## Ephesians 2:10 ESV

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

- Sanctification is God’s work; there is nothing intrinsically we add to His workmanship.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 ESV

23 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jeremiah 18:6 ESV

6 O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the LORD. Behold, like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.

- Sanctification is God’s work which requires our unconditional surrender. Without our participation, God’s work will not be accomplished.

2 Peter 1:5-9 ESV

5 For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, 7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.

Romans 12:1 ESV

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

- Good works under the Old Covenant are not the same as good works under the New Covenant.

Old Covenant Works	New Covenant Works
Product of self-will and self-discipline	Product of the indwelling Christ and Holy Spirit
To be accepted into relationship with God	Because we are accepted into relationship with God

"**SANCTIFICATION** begins in regeneration...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'... —Charles Spurgeon

## MORTIFICATION

*Colossians 3:5-8 ESV*

5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming.

7 In these you too once walked, when you were living in them.

8 But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.

### 1. Crucified in Christ

- Not theoretical but literal - not rhetorical but in power.
- Until our death in Christ on the cross becomes our reality by faith, any spiritual discipline will be powerless.
- This is the point where self-will and self-control stop, and the power of the cross becomes real.

*Romans 6:6 ESV*

6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

*Romans 6:11-12 ESV*

11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions.

*Galatians 2:20 ESV*

20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

*Romans 6:1-2 ESV*

1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?

2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

### 2. Repentance

- The sinfulness of human depravity rebels against absolute Truth by justifying, excusing, rationalizing and defending its disobedience.
- **Repent** (*metanoēō*)
  - to change one's mind for better
  - heartily to amend with abhorrence of one's past sins
- **Confess** (*homologeō*)
  - to say the same thing as another
  - to agree with

*Jeremiah 17:9-10 ESV*

9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

10 I the LORD search the heart and test the mind...

Psalm 139:23-24 ESV

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!

24 And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

Hebrews 4:12 ESV

12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

John 16:7-8 ESV

7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 ESV

4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.

2 Corinthians 7:10-11 ESV

10 For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

11 For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.

### 3. Abstinence

- *Feed the fleshly desires and they grow in strength. Abstain from the fleshly desires and they grow weaker.*

1 Peter 2:11 ESV

11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

Proverbs 27:12 ESV

12 The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it.

2 Peter 2:7-9 ESV

7 and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked

8 (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard);

9 then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment,

Genesis 19:15-19 ESV

15 As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city."

16 But he lingered. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city.

17 And as they brought them out, one said, "Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away."

18 And Lot said to them, "Oh, no, my lords.

19 Behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life. But I cannot escape to the hills, lest the disaster overtake me and I die.

## VIVIFICATION

*Ephesians 3:14-19 ESV*

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,

15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named,

16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith--that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,

19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.