

# Sanctification Part 1

## A Benefit

### Romans 6:15-23

“I am being sanctified by the grace of God; my life has been set apart to live for His glory”

**Introduction:** Sometimes Renee will come home from the grocery store and I will start looking at all the goodies and I will start to open something and she will stop me and say that is for the kids at church.

A. Now I am thinking that's good for the kids but I can't touch.

- I wonder if that is the way the devil feels when He comes after us and God says you can't touch them they are set apart for my glory!

B. You see when we say that we are sanctified what that means is that we have been set apart for a holy purpose and God's one and only purpose is to bring glory to himself then that is what we are sanctified for.

**Transition:** Now what we must see in God's Word this morning is that setting apart comes with great responsibility and amazing benefits.

A. Luke 12:48 but the one who did not <sup>(A)</sup>know it, and committed deeds worthy of a flogging, will receive but few <sup>(B)</sup>From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more.

- The responsibility that we have as believers is great; we have been entrusted with God's Word and with that church come huge responsibility.

B. But this morning I want to share with you a few thoughts from Romans chapter 6 that give us the hope of the benefit of the sanctification of our lives by the grace of God.

### Verse 15-16

1. In verse 14 Paul says that we are not under the law but under grace.
  - So then are we to sin because we are not under the Law
- To which Paul responds: **May it never be!**
2. Paul points out that obedience will indicate to whom you give yourself.
  - The truth is that if we walk in sin, if we continue in sin, if our desire is to satisfy sin then we are slaves to sin and the results of that, is bondage to sin.
    - And the results of that bondage to sin is death!
3. But look at verse 17-18
  - Even though we used to be slaves to sin we became obedient from the heart
    - Jesus said in the sermon on the mount **blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.** Matt. 5:8
- It is not obedience that purifies the hearts of man it is a heart that has been made pure by the grace of God that manifest in obedience!
  - The believer has been freed from the bounds of sin and is now bound in righteousness resulting in sanctification
- Verse 19 **I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh For just (B)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.**
- Let me share with you the benefit of being sanctified by the grace of God.

## I. **Eternal Life** verse 21-22 READ

- A. There are some things about eternal life that we need to know in order that we fully appreciate this indescribable benefit of being set apart for the glory of God.
1. Eternal life and Heaven are not the same thing.
    - Heaven is a place designated for the sanctified to spend eternity after this life has been lived.
  - D.L. Moody once said, "Soon you will read in the newspaper that I am dead. Don't believe it for a minute. I will be more alive than ever before."
  - Then on his death bed he said "The earth recedes and Heaven opens before me."
  2. There is a Heaven, there will be a new heaven and a new earth the former things will have passed away and all things will be made new.
    - There will be gates of pearl
    - There will be a street of gold
    - There will be a river that flows from the very throne of God!

= But Church Eternal life and heaven are the same thing: heaven is something that the sanctified will experience eternal life is something that the sanctified "Those set apart by God's grace have from the moment that we become believers.

- It is not my intent to diminish the incredible gift of Heaven but to simply point out that eternal life is a greater gift

= When God saves us He does not save us for Heaven He saves us to eternal life that has already begun and we are already experiencing the benefit of being sanctified by His grace.

- Heaven will come as part of our eternal life with God but eternal has already begun.

= Let's look back at our text verse 22 READ

■ **So if eternal life is not Heaven then what is it?**

B. Eternal is the Greek word "Aionios" It means something that is not affected by the limitation of time.

1. Paul says that having been freed from sin, enslaved to God and the outcome is not limited by time.

- Church death is man's timer when it goes off the flesh no longer operates.

- The wages of sin is death it stops man's life, but the free gift of God is eternal it has no timer.

- We are sanctified to not only for a forever life in Heaven after we die but to live for his glory without the confines of time even now!

■ **Eternal not only speaks of the future but of the past and the present.**

2. Believers, God has sanctified us set us apart to live for His glory there is no place to quit, there is no time to retire from the moment that we were saved by the grace of God the outcome is eternal.

= The Benefit is that it never ends:

- God continues to give us strength
- God continues to give discernment
- God continues to give courage
- God continues to give wisdom

= Being sanctified by God's grace is not an ending but a beginning without any end.

**Transition:** The benefit of sanctification is eternal, it is eternal life.

C. Life is a precious thing

1. When we think of life we think in terms of:

- A beating heart
- Breathing
- Talking and walking

➤ When we think of life we almost always think about the physical!

2. But this word here that Paul uses to describe what we have in sanctification is the Greek word “zoe” this word expresses so much more than just physical life.

- It refers the principle of life in the spirit and the soul.
- Much deeper than the flesh it reaches into who you are.
- Someone who has been sanctified by the grace of God is not who they used to be.

■ **Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.** I Cor. 5:17

**Closing:** Let me bring these thoughts together for you to make application to our lives.

**A. Read verse 21** What benefit could we possibly gotten from those things that we are ashamed that we did. Namely sin!

**1. The outcome of those things were the timer of life going off.**

- Sin just brings death and destruction to lives!

**2. But now because of the sanctifying work of Christ we have been freed from the bondage of death and been set apart to live for the glory of God.**

➤ **Resulting in the outcome of eternal life!**

= The benefits of sanctification is eternal secure in a relationship with an eternal God!