

Bethel Bible Series

Sanctification

NT Study 19

People don't care how much you know, they want to know how much you care. - PK

Welcome

Opening - Why is it important to recognize and react to false teachings?
Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer

Review of Last Week - *False Teaching*

Backgrounds of Remaining New Testament Letters

Philippians

By Paul (with Timothy) in prison (first time) to the church in Philippi
Philippians sent gifts via Epaphroditus to Paul, Paul sent thanks back

Colossians

By Paul (with Timothy) in prison (first) to the church in Colosse
Paul updated on Colossian church via Epaphras, Letter sent via Tychicus

Philemon

By Paul (with Timothy) in prison (first) to Philemon and church in house
Onesimus, Philemon's slave, escaped and found Paul in Rome; Paul returned Onesimus

James

James - Brother of Jesus; Overseer of Judean church
Written to scattered Christian Jews around 60 AD; Filled with guidance

2 Peter

By Simon Peter (in prison, near execution) to Christians in Asia Minor
Letter written to warn against false prophets and teachers

1 John

A tract by John to warn Christians against false doctrines (around 90 AD)

2 John

By John to an unnamed church warning of deceivers; Fit sheet of papyrus

3 John

John commended Gaius for his work for the church; One sheet of papyrus

Jude

By Jude, brother of Jesus and James, to Christians in Asia Minor
Written to urge faithfulness despite false teachings

Gnosticism

Dualism - Spirit (good) and Body (evil) are two separate entities
Universe was created by an inferior being (the Old Testament Creator)
A spark of God exists in all living human bodies (spirit)
Hierarchy of angel intermediaries provides God/man interface

Since flesh is evil, man's spirit is suffocated from true spiritual values

The spirit must be "awakened" by a special knowledge (*gnosis*)

Asceticism - Subdue the flesh by self-denial, punishment and law-keeping

Sensuality - The body's evil can't affect the spirit; Do whatever you want

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False Teaching

Six Manuscripts = Epistles: Colossians, James, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, Jude

Lamp and Smoke = Each letter expresses a concern over false teachings

Figure's Face = False teaching can blind and deceive; take care of doctrine

Greek Column = Colosse warned against effect of Greek philosophical schools

God to fill you with ... all spiritual wisdom and understanding (gnosis)

The fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form (dualism)

Don't be judged by your food, drink, festivals, sabbath (reversion)

Stay away from false humility, angel worship, regulations (asceticism)

Put to death whatever belongs to your earthly nature (sensuality)

Battered Trumpet = Peter and Jude sound warnings of those who distort faith

Jude - *Contend for the faith that was ... entrusted to the saints*

Godless men change God's grace into a license for immorality (sensuality)

The Lord will judge the ungodly (examples of Israelites, angels, Sodom and Gomorrah)

2 Peter - Many will follow false prophets with destructive heresies

God punished (spared) demons (angels), flood (Noah), Sodom and Gomorrah (Lot)

Be on your guard...not be carried away by error...grow in the grace

Damaged Crib and Crown = 1 & 2 John warns of denying Jesus' divinity or humanity

The man who denies Jesus is the Christ is the antichrist

Deceiver who doesn't acknowledge Jesus in the flesh is antichrist

Dead Wreath = James warned against a faith which produces no good works

Faith without deeds is dead, Living faith examples of Abraham and Rahab

Lesson - Sanctification

Sanctification

Sanctify = To set apart as holy or for holy purposes

Whereas *justification* changes the status of the sinner in God's eyes,

sanctification changes the person

Blooming Flower = A right relationship with Christ brings fullness of life

John 10:10 = *I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

How does sanctification lead to fullness of life?

Homework Question = Discuss as a class

Are the lives of God's children transformed immediately and completely when they enter the household of faith or does such transformation assume a passage of time in relationship with Christ?

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Clock Face = Fullness of Life evolves gradually over time (not instantly)

Is sanctification instantaneous or gradual?

2 Corinthians 3:18 = *We're being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory*

Is this transformation something we have to do?

Philippians 1:6 = *He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion*

Did Paul feel he had reached the full life through sanctification?

Philippians 3:12-14 = *I haven't obtained it yet, but I press on toward the goal*

How does God help us as we spend time and grow in our relationship with Him?

2 Peter 1:3-4 = *He gives all we need for life and to participate in the divine nature*

How can we participate in the divine nature?

Ephesians 4:12-16 = *Become mature, attain the whole measure of the fullness of Christ*

How do we help others grow in sanctification?

Colossians 1:28 = *Proclaim, admonish and teach to present everyone perfect in Christ*

Clock's Hands Catch Weeds = Time in relationship with Christ roots out things which choke the full life

What is the source of the weeds that choke out the full life?

1 Peter 5:8 = *Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking...to devour*

How are we to fight against the weeds of evil that are thick in this world where we live?

Titus 2:11-12 = *Say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions and live self-controlled*

How do we deal with the weeds of temptation that Satan plants in our lives? = *Flesh*

Galatians 5:16-18 = *Live by the Spirit & you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature*

What did Paul advise about pressing on toward the goal of a sanctified life in this sin-filled world?

Philippians 2:12-13 = *Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling*

What should we remember when the weeds of temptation seem to have their grasp on us?

Romans 13:11-14 = *Night is nearly over; day is almost here...put aside deeds of darkness*

Is it just a matter of saying no to temptations?

Ephesians 4:22-24 = *Put off your old self ... put on the new self*

Numbers on the Clock Face = Twelve points on Sanctification

I. Birth Into Christ

1 Peter 1:3 = *He has given us new birth into a living hope through ... Jesus Christ*

II. Hunger for God's Will

1 Peter 2:2 = *Like newborn babies crave pure spiritual milk to grow up in your salvation.*

III. Effort to Learn God's Will

Acts 2:42 = *They devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread & prayer*

Worship

Psalm 103:1 = *In my inmost being praise his holy name*

Study

2 Timothy 3:14-17 = *Scripture is to teach, rebuke, correct, train, equip*

Fellowship

Hebrews 10:25 = *Let us not give up meeting together, let us encourage one another*

Prayer

Romans 8:26 = *Spirit helps in our weakness with groans that words can't express*

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Numbers on the Clock Face = Twelve points on Sanctification (continued)

- IV. Understanding
Colossians 1:9 = *Fill you with knowledge of His will through spiritual wisdom & understanding*
- V. Sense of Values
Romans 6:17-18, 22 = Set free from sin, Become slaves to righteousness, Leads to holiness
- VI. Awareness of Sin
Romans 7:15-24 = *When I want to do good, evil is right there with me; who will rescue me*
- VII. Awareness of God's kindness
Isaiah 63:7 = *I will tell of the kindnesses of the Lord, the deeds for which he is to be praised*
- VIII. Sense of Gratitude
Colossians 3:15-17 = Teach, admonish and praise *with gratitude in your hearts to God*
- IX. Responsiveness
Exodus 24:7 = People responded to the Covenant: *We will do everything the Lord has said*
- X. Sense of Responsibility
Ephesians 4:15-16 = We will grow up into Him as we do our part in the Body
 - Time
1 Corinthians 15:58 = *Give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord ... not in vain*
 - Talents
Romans 12:6-8 = Use your gifts in proportion to your faith
 - Possessions
2 Corinthians 8:1-5 = Macedonians pleaded to give and gave beyond ability
 - Moral and Spiritual Integrity
Hebrews 13:18 = *We have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably*
- XI. Sacrificial Involvement
John 13:1, 4-5, 12-17 = Jesus washed disciples' feet to teach them to serve others
- XII. Christlikeness
Ephesians 3:16-19 = Christ dwell in your hearts; be filled with all the fullness of God

Closing Prayer

Distribute Materials = Hand out Study 19 and Assignment 20

Next Week - *Revelation*