

## Selected Scriptures

July 7, 2024

### *God Ordains the Means, Not Simply the End!*

(pt. 7)

INTRO: The Bible highlights many “truths for life.” Precious truths can be misconstrued & misapplied!

I) God is meticulously sovereign in all things, including \_\_\_\_\_.

*(Eph. 1:3-14; John 6:37f; Lam. 3:33-37-39)*

II) From A to Z, salvation is all of \_\_\_\_\_.

*(1 Tim. 1:15-17; Eph. 1-6)*

III) God’s perfect will, will come to pass, come what may!

*(Is. 45:7-9; 46:8f; Prov. 16:33; 19:21; Job 42:2)*

### 3 Biblical Principles of Progressive Sanctification

**Principle 1: God’s meticulous sovereignty doesn’t eliminate moral culpability or lessen human**

\_\_\_\_\_.

**Principle 2: God sovereignly ordains both the \_\_\_\_\_ and the end.**

**Principle 3: “Believers ought to glory in the indicatives of Scripture while insisting on the imperatives!”**

*To help apply God's Word to your daily walk, spend some time going over the devotional on pp 3-4.*

**For Further Reflection:** *Lord help us to be doers of the Word and not just sermon connoisseurs*

How did the Scriptures encourage, challenge, and/or convict you today? What did you learn? What helpful reminders did you hear today? What do you want to study further as a result of today's message?

The Bible highlights many "truths for life." Precious truths, however, can be misconstrued & misapplied! How is God's sovereignty sometimes abused/misapplied/ How is God's amazing grace abused? How is the concept of *resting* in Christ (or justification by faith alone) abused/misapplied?

This is part 7 of a brand-new summer series on "progressive sanctification, the pursuit of holiness, and the quest for full assurance." Today's sermon builds off of the previous six messages. Page 4 of this sermon handout highlights some of the key doctrines from previous related sermons.

What were the 3 Biblical Principles of Progressive Sanctification highlighted today? How do these 3 principles relate to the Christian's progressive sanctification? Personal evangelism and Global missions? Prayer? Biblical prophecy? The Bema seat of Christ? The warning passages in Hebrews and the perseverance of the saints? (Sound) Theology is life!

In all areas of life, we must remain tethered to the Holy Text. See Col. 3:16-17; Ps 1:1-3; Ps.119:11; and 1 Tim. 4:16! The Lord of the Church commands local church pastors in 1 Timothy 4:16 to "pay close attention" to both "your life and your doctrine!"

"The highway to holiness has been clearly marked out for believers." J.I. Packer.

God not only ordains the end, He ordains the means to the end. How are the spiritual disciplines of the Christian life (aka the habits of grace) related to the saint's spiritual growth (his/her progressive sanctification)? How are the ordinary means of grace (worship, fellowship, preaching, prayer, the use of spiritual gifts/talents, etc) related/connected to the believer and the local church's maturation? Philippians 2:12-13; 1 Cor. 9:27; 1 Tim. 4:7-8.

Those who ignore the many warnings of Scripture, or who downplay the importance of in depth, Bible study (2 Tim. 2:15; Ezra 7:10) and meaty, expository preaching can easily fall prey to harmful, half-truths and spiritual trojan horses (see Eph. 4:11-16; Heb. 5:12-14; Titus 1:9-11; 2 Tim. 4:1-5; Jude 1:3-4).

What have we been saved *from*? What have we been saved *unto*? 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Eph. 2:1-10. Rom. 5:1-10. *Summarize what you remember from an earlier sermon, titled, "The Hole in our Holiness and the Great Commission Omission."*

John Newton once said, "I am not the man I ought to be, I am not the man I wish to be and I am not the man I hope to be, but, by the grace of God, I am not the man I used to be." "Christ for pardon! Christ for power!" What does this mean/imply?

Now that we're 7 sermons into our summer series: How would you define hyper-grace sanctification? What is grace-less moralism or lower case "I" legalism? How do we avoid falling into these (or any other) theological ditch? How do we remain biblically balanced?

A few weeks ago we saw that the mystery and wonder of sanctification is two-fold: 1) *The believer is commanded in the Bible to be now- what he/she already is in Christ; (you are a saint in and through Christ; See Col. 1:2; 3:14; 2 Cor. 7:1; 1 Pet. 1:15-16; Heb. 10:14)* 2) *The believer is commanded to be now what they cannot fully be until glorification and eternity future; (one day we will be perfectly obedient saints; see 1 John 3:1-3; Jude 24-25; Rev. 21-22)*

Last Sunday Pastor Kent preached on 2 Peter 1:5-11. This key NT text highlights, "Essential Virtues of the Zealous and Divinely Empowered Christian." How does last week's msg. relate to today's msg.?

**Progressive Sanctification, The Pursuit of Holiness, and the Quest for Full Assurance**  
Summer Series 2024

*Working Out our Sanctification as the Spirit Working In and Through Us.* 6/2/24 sermon.

Philippians 2:12-13; “So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.”

3 Practical Implications from the book of Philippians. Before throwing in the towel or giving in, remember: 1) *Progressive Sanctification is spiritual and supernatural!* 2) *Progressive Sanctification is possible because the Helper is Not Only with Us, He’s also Powerfully Working In Us.* (The Spirit sanctifies/renews our desires and empowers us!) 3) *Progressive Sanctification is possible because the Helper is Mightily Working In and Through Us for God’s good pleasure.* (See Phil. 2:12-13; Phil 4:13; Col. 1:28-29; 1 Cor. 15:10) Listen again to the 6/2/24 sermon.

The Gospel A, B, C’s: A) The sole *ground* of our justification is the person and work of Christ. (Phil. 3:9; 1 Cor. 1:30). B) The sole *instrumental cause* of our justification is faith alone. (Romans 3-5; Galatians 3). C) The *chief evidence* of a justified believer is Spirit-wrought obedience. (Galatians. 5:22f; Romans 6-8; James 2; Titus 2:10-14; Listen again to Pastor Josh’s 1 John msg. and Pastor K’s 2 Peter 1 msg.)

6/23/24 outline. Selected Scriptures; *Sanctification: Then. Now. and One Day, For All Eternity!* (pt. 5)

Romans 6-8 establishes 3 vitally important & immensely practical doctrines: 1) The *penalty* of sin has been paid in full! Full atonement can it be! Hallelujah! What a Savior! 2) The *power* of sin is broken. Christians are now “free to be holy! See Jerry Wragg’s book, “Free to be Holy.” 3) The *presence* of indwelling sin, and the ensuing holy war with the flesh, is ongoing! (see Rom. 6-8)

I) **The past tense aspect of sanctification is called: Positional Sanctification** (Initial sanctification). Believers have been set apart by God, for God! This is how the Father views us in Christ. We are saints in and through Christ, the Son (1 Cor. 6:9-11; 1 Cor. 1:30-31; Heb. 10:14a). Christ for pardon!

II) **The present tense aspect of sanctification: Progressive Sanctification.** The present, continuous, process of becoming increasingly Christ-like. Note Pastor Caleb’s Philippians 2:12-13 sermon. R.C. Sproul, “There is no time lapse between justification and the beginning of progressive sanctification.” (Note Heb. 10:14b; 2 Cor. 7:1; Eph. 5:25-27; Rom. 6-7). Positional sanctification is the basis of *progressive* sanctification and always yields spiritual fruit (John 14:15; Luke 6:46; Gal. 2:20; Rom. 6:1-11). Christ for power!

III) **The future tense aspect of sanctification: Perfected Sanctification.** Philippians 1:6; 1 John 3:1-3. “Be saved to sin no more!” “On that day when freed from sinning, I shall see my Savior’s face!”

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a) *The believer is commanded in the Bible to be now- what he/she already is in Christ; (you are a saint in and through Christ; See Col. 1:2; 3:14; 2 Cor. 7:1; 1 Pet. 1:15-16; Heb. 10:14)*

b) *The believer is commanded to be now what they cannot fully be until glorification and eternity future; (one day we will be perfectly obedient saints; see 1 John 3:1-3; Jude 24-25; Rev. 21-22)*

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