

THE HOLY SPIRIT— SANCTIFICATION AND ASSURANCE



We have been studying the work of the Holy Spirit as he applies the redemption bought by Christ. First he **effectually calls** and **regenerates** us (*"born of the Spirit"*). But just as a new baby grows up, so the Holy Spirit causes the one born again to grow up. This is called **sanctification**.

1. List the three things the Holy Spirit does to apply redemption to us.

2. According to S.C. #32, what are the three benefits that come in this life to those who are effectually called? They partake of _____, _____, and _____ and the several benefits which flow from them.

3. Look up S.C. #35.
 - a. Notice that S.C. #33 says justification is an **act** of God's free grace, #34 says adoption is an **act** of God's free grace, but #35 says sanctification is the _____ of God's free grace. When we are justified (forgiven all our sin and clothed in the righteousness of Christ) and adopted (taken into God's family), those happen once and will never change. But sanctification will go on until we go to be with Jesus. The change made by regeneration will always affect us.

b. According to S.C. #35, what two things happen to us when the Holy Spirit sanctifies us? We are renewed in the whole man after the _____, and are _____ to _____

and _____.

1) "We are renewed in the whole man" because the Holy Spirit has killed our old sinful nature and has put a new nature in us.

a) Who were first "after the image of God"?

_____ and _____

b) But Adam and Eve lost their innocent nature. Who next had a perfect and sinless nature?

c) So the Holy Spirit is at work making us like Jesus. He took away the Adam (old) nature (dead in sin) and is making us more and more like Jesus.

d) Look up Romans 6 — an important chapter about sanctification.

i) According to v. 5, if we have been united to Christ in his _____, we will also be united with him in his _____. If this is true, what does v. 6 say happened to the old self (old man, old nature)? _____

ii) What does v. 7 say is true because the old nature has died? _____

iii) According to v. 8, what do we believe happens since we have died (the old self crucified) with Christ? _____

iv) That living with Christ means **now**, not in the future. Verse 11 says we must consider (believe) ourselves _____ to sin and _____ to God in Christ Jesus.



What do
YOU think?

Just as we believe the Gospel about Jesus — that he died and rose again from the dead — we are taught here that the most important part of sanctification is believing the Gospel about ourselves that we have died with him and have been raised with him. Often we do not feel alive in Christ, but we still need to believe what the Gospel teaches about being united to Christ.



Think
about it

- v. But even when we believe the Gospel we still sin. Romans 6:12 says, "Let not sin therefore reign in your _____
_____." v. 13 says not to present your _____
to sin because you have been brought from _____ to _____. So even though we sin, sin will have no _____ over us (v. 14) since we are not under _____ but under _____.

This can be very confusing. Try to **explain** how a Christian can be changed on the inside by the Holy Spirit and yet still sin.



What do
YOU think?

2) S.C. #35 says the Spirit enables us more and more to die unto sin (the old nature has less and less power over us) and more and more to live unto righteousness (becoming like Christ).

a) Even though the Spirit is working in us, he is not forcing us. What does Ephesians 4:30 warn us not to do? _____

b) We must cooperate with the Spirit as he works in us. What do these verses tell us to do?

Ephesians 4:22 _____ the old self

Ephesians 4:24 _____ the new self

Ephesians 4:27 _____

no _____ to the devil

Ephesians 4:32 _____ to one another,

_____, _____ one another

Ephesians 5:2 _____ in love

Ephesians 5:11 _____

the unfruitful works of darkness.

Ephesians 5:18 _____ with the Spirit

3) According to S.C. #36, what are the five benefits which accompany our justification, adoption, and sanctification? _____

4. Assurance



Think
about it

Notice especially the benefit called "assurance of God's love." The Bible teaches that a person who is truly born of God (regeneration) can be certain that he or she belongs to God. And that no matter what happens in the future, God will always hold on to his chosen child. This is called assurance of salvation.



a) Define assurance. _____

b) Look up Romans 8:38, 39. Paul had assurance. What did he believe could separate him from the love of God in Christ? _____

c) Look up I John (not the Gospel of John). This book of the Bible was written to help Christians have assurance. Look up these verses and tell how we can know we are born of God and have eternal life.

2:3: We know that we have come to **know** him if _____

3:14: We **know** that we have passed out of death into life because _____

4:13: We **know** that we abide in him and he is in us because _____

4:15: Whoever confesses that _____
_____ God abides in him and he in God.

5:18: We **know** that everyone who has been born of God _____

(that means does not "keep on sinning all the time").

d) Do you have assurance that you are saved? Explain your answer. _____



What do
YOU think?

Date Completed _____

Parent's Initials _____