

EXPERIENTIAL SANCTIFICATION

This lesson comes from our last study entitled, [Hearts Established in Holiness](#), taken from (1 Thess.3:13)

“So that **He may establish your heart blameless in holiness** before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus withal His saints.”

The Greek word for holiness is **hagiosune**. The suffix (sune) refers to a specific quality or characteristic of God’s holiness (hagios) which is essential to the Christian’s Walk, in the Christian way of life. (1 Pet.1:15-16)

The context of (1 Thess.3:13) refers to Experiential Sanctification.

This lesson will study four aspects of Experiential Sanctification.

1. There are three phases to New Covenant Sanctification by the Holy Spirit in the Plan of God.

- **Phase One Positional Sanctification or Salvation**

- (2 Thess.2:13-15; Heb.13:12; 1 Cor.6:11; Acts 26:18).

(1 Cor.6:11) “Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.”

- **Phase Two Experiential Sanctification in the Christian way of life.**

- (1 Thess.3:13; Acts 20:32; 2 Cor.7:1).

(Acts 20:32) “And now I recommend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”

- **Phase Three Ultimate Sanctification – Eternity**

- (1 Thess.5:23; 2 Thess.1:10; 1 Rhessw.4:13-18).

(1 Thess.5:23) “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

2. Every Church Age Believer receives Positional Sanctification the moment he/ she believes that Jesus Christ died personally for their sins, was buried, and raised from the dead on the third day to give them eternal life (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9; 1 John 5:11-13).

(Rom.15:16) “To be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the **gospel of God, so that** my offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, **sanctified by the Holy Spirit.**”

(2 Thess.2:13-14) “But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning **for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and in the truth.** It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may give the glory to our Lord Jesus Christ.”

3. **Experiential Sanctification has two important ministries of the Indwelling Spirit: Filing and Walking.**

NOTE: Both are presented by **present imperatives** (commands to believers):

- **The first ministry of Experiential Sanctification is the filling ministry of the Indwelling Spirit.**

(Eph.5:18) “**And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation (asotia) [excess, riotous living] (Luke 15:13) [a synonym/ lascivious] (1Pet.4:4) **but be filled** (pleroo/ p.a.impv.2pl) **with the Spirit.**”**

In the parable of the prodigal sons, Jesus gave an example of **asotia** (lascivious riotous living) in the younger son (Luke 15:11-17). Many bible students struggle with the interpretation of the doctrinal solution to asotia by the Greek word **pleroo**. The English translation of (be filled) is good but needs further explanation. The root idea of filling is “to fill a deficiency, or in this case, an expectation of desire.” (Eph.5:15-21)

Asotia (dissipation) shows that the expectation and desire of the Filling of the Holy Spirit was **quenched** - “**Do not quench** (me sbennumi/ p.a.impv.2pl) [Stop putting out the fire!] **the Spirit.**” (1 Thess.5:19/ 5:12-22).

- **The second ministry of Experiential Sanctification is walking by means of the Indwelling Holy Spirit.**

(Gal.5:16-17) “But I say, **walk** (peripateo/ p.a.impv.2pl) **by the Spirit**, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.” (Rom.7:14-25)

Peripateo refers to every activity of a believer’s life and especially his daily life.

Walking by means of the flesh results in **grieving** the Indwelling Holy Spirit (Gal..5:16-25) and the spiritually advancing believer is warned against doing so.

(Eph.4:30) “**Do not grieve** (me lupeo/ p.a.impv.2pl) **the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed** until the day of redemption.” (Eph.1:13-14/ 4:27-32)