

Three stages of SANCTIFICATION...

STAGE ONE – *sanctification* begins at *regeneration*.

STAGE TWO – *sanctification* progresses throughout life.

STAGE THREE – *sanctification* will ultimately be completed...which is called ‘glorification’

Two requirements related to OUR role in sanctification:

- I. WHOLEHEARTED COMMITMENT**
- II. PERSEVERING DILIGENCE**

19...For just 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.

THE ULTIMATE END

Romans 6:20-23

Two contrasting destinies...

I. THE DISASTROUS END OF UNREPENTANT SIN

20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

Two contrasting destinies...

I. THE DISASTROUS END OF UNREPENTANT SIN

21 Therefore what benefit were you then deriving from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the outcome of those things is death.

1 Sam 26:21...I have sinned... I have played the fool and have committed a serious error.

I. THE DISASTROUS END OF UNREPENTANT SIN

John 5:28 – 28 Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, 29 and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

Rev 20:11-14 – 11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it...12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne...13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. 14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

I. THE DISASTROUS END OF UNREPENTANT SIN

- A total absence of the favor of God.
- An endless, complete domination of sin.
- Actual pains and sufferings in body and soul.
- And such subjective punishments as pangs of conscience, anguish, despair, weeping, and gnashing of teeth (Matt 8:12; 13:50; Mark 9:43-44, 47-48; Luke 16:23, 28; Rev 14:10; 21:8).

I. THE DISASTROUS END OF UNREPENTANT SIN

Mark 9:48 – (Hell is) where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.

Matt 25:46 – These will go away into eternal punishment...

Rev 14:11 - And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night...

Two contrasting destinies...

I. THE DISASTROUS END OF UNREPENTANT SIN

II. THE GLORIOUS END OF REPENTANT FAITH

22 But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God...

- I. THE DISASTROUS END OF UNREPENTANT SIN
- II. THE GLORIOUS END OF REPENTANT FAITH

*At three I had a feeling of
Ambivalence toward my brothers.
And so it follows naturally
I poisoned all my lovers.
But now I'm happy; I have learned
The lesson this has taught:
That everything I do that's wrong
Is someone else's fault.*

(Anna Russell)

I. THE DISASTROUS END OF UNREPENTANT SIN

II. THE GLORIOUS END OF REPENTANT FAITH

22...you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.

John 17:3 - This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Luke 23:43 - And He said to him, “Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise.”

2 Cor 5:8 - we...prefer...to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.

I. THE DISASTROUS END OF UNREPENTANT SIN

II. THE GLORIOUS END OF REPENTANT FAITH

22...you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

John 5:24 - ... he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

SPURGEON – (Verse 23 is) *a Christian proverb, a golden sentence, a divine statement of truth worthy to be written across the sky...Here you have both the essence of the gospel and a statement of that misery from which the gospel delivers all who believe.*

SUMMARY:

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gal 6:8 - For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Mark 10:29-30 - Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or farms, for My sake and for the gospel's sake, 30 but that he will receive a hundred times as much now in the present age... and in the age to come, eternal life."

Col 3:1-3 – 1 Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. 3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Final thoughts:

#1 - A Comment about Shame

JOHN CHRYSOSTOM – *Our New life is evident in that you recognize your past life for what it was.*

2 Cor 7:10 - For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

Final thoughts:

#1 – A Comment about Shame

#2 – A Comment about Freedom

John 8:34, 36 - 34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin. ... 36 (But) if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

Matt 7:13 - Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it.