

Happiness vs. Holiness—Part 5
“The Sanctification of the Church”
Philippians 2:12-13

Thorny Doctrines must be held in a healthy tension!

I. **Man’s R_____ (v. 12)**

- a. Context: in this chapter Paul is telling the Philippians to be like Christ (cf. Phil. 2:5-8, 3-4)
- b. **my beloved** = a term of endearment proceeding a heartfelt appeal (cf. Rom. 12:19; 1 Cor. 1:4:14; 10:14; 15:58; Phil. 4:1)
- c. **just as you have always obeyed** = encouragement that they are genuine Believers
- d. **work out your salvation with fear and trembling**
 - i. **work out = katergazomai** (κατεργάζομαι) = “to carry out to its full completion or perfection.”
 - ii. **salvation = sōtēria** (σωτηρία) = “to deliver, to rescue, to make safe” or “to save”
 - iii. It does NOT mean you **work** to earn your **salvation** (cf. Eph. 2:8-9)
 - iv. It means you flesh out or reveal externally and practically in how you live your life, what God has already accomplished internally with your salvation

Separated in the Past from the Penalty of Sin...**J**_____

Separated in the Present from the Power of Sin...**S**_____

Separated in the Future from the Presence of Sin...**G**_____

- e. **with fear and trembling** = an Old Testament idiom of respect and awe towards God (cf. Ps. 2:11; 119:120; 1 Cor. 2:3; 2 Cor. 7:15; Eph. 6:5; & Heb. 10:31; Rom. 6:19; 1 Cor. 7:1; Eph. 4:1; 1 Tim. 6:11; James 2:14-17)

II. **God’s S_____ (v. 13)**

- a. **for** tells us that verse 13 provides the foundation for Paul’s exhortation in verse 12
- b. That foundation: **it is God** who is the One **at work** in us!
 - i. Even though we must make a decision of the will, we can never forget that it is God who gives us both the **will** or desire to be sanctified and also the **work** or the ability to be sanctified (cf. Eph. 2:1-5; John 15:4-5)
 - ii. Therefore, we can never boast in either our salvation or our sanctification...it all flows from the Grace of God!
- c. **for His good pleasure** = when we follow His will, we bring glory and pleasure to God and we experience great joy!