

Happiness vs. Holiness—Part 4
“The Sanctification of Our Bodies”
1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

I. **Paul’s Encouragement for the Sanctification of Our Bodies**
(v. 1-2)

II. **God’s Will for the Sanctification of Our Bodies** (v. 3)

III. **Paul’s Instructions for the Sanctification of Our Bodies** (v. 4-6a)

a. **Control Your Own Body**

- i. **vessel** = *skeuos* (σκεῦος) = **body** (cf. 2 Cor. 4:7; 2 Tim. 2:20–21; 1 Sam. 21:5; 1 Peter 3:7)
- ii. **possess** = *kataomai* (κτάομαι) = “to continually acquire or gain mastery and control over something.”

iii. **Escape Temptation** (James 1:13-15; cf. 1 John 1:9)

- 1. **D** _____
- 2. **D** _____
- 3. **D** _____
- 4. **D** _____
- 5. **D** _____
- 6. **D** _____

iv. **Putting Off & Putting On** (Eph. 4:20-24)

- 1. We must turn FROM temptation, **lay aside the old self** and also turn TO Christ’s righteousness **put on the new self**,
- 2. This is what it means to be **renewed in the spirit of your mind** (cf. Heb. 12:2; Rom. 6:19; 12:1-2)

b. **Do Not Behave Like Unbelievers**

- i. **lustful passion** = “**degrading passions**” (cf. Rom 1:26; Col 3:5)
- ii. As Jesus’ ambassadors we must represent Him to a dead and decaying world (cf. 1 Peter 4:1-3; Rom. 13:13-14)

c. **Do Not Steal Someone’s Virtue**

- i. **transgress** = _____
- ii. **defraud** = _____
- iii. **the matter** = _____
- iv. A married person’s body belongs to their spouse (cf. 1 Cor. 7:3-4; Prov. 5:15-19)
- v. So, if you sexually sin with someone, you are stealing that person’s virtue and robbing their future spouse (Matt. 18:6; cf. Eph. 5:3; cf.; Acts 15:20; 1 Cor. 5:1; 6:13; 10:8; 2 Cor. 12:21; Gal. 5:19; Col. 3:5; 1 Thess. 4:3; Jude 7)

IV. **God’s Warnings for the Sanctification of Our Bodies** (v. 6a-8)

a. **To Escape God’s Judgment**

- i. Every unsaved person will face God’s eternal judgment in hell, but there is no condemnation in Christ Jesus for the Believer (cf. Rom. 8:1; 12:19; John 5:24; Deut. 32:35)

- ii. **God Can Passively Hand Us Over** (Rom. 1:24-32; Gal. 6:7-8; Prov. 1:31; 22:8; Job 4:8; Hos. 8:7; Jer. 17:10)
 - 1. God lets us reap what we sow.

- iii. **God Can Actively Discipline Us** (Heb. 12:4:11)
 - 1. **FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES**

b. **To Fulfill God’s Purpose**

- i. You were not just saved FROM something; you were also saved FOR something: To glorify God and delight in His presence (cf. Ps. 73:25-26; 1 Cor. 10:31)

c. **To Confirm Our Salvation**

- i. Persistent unrepentant sin is a sign of not being saved.
- ii. You are not Saved because your Body is Sanctified; but because you are Saved your Body will be Sanctified (cf. Eph. 2:8-10)