

WCF XIII & XVI: Sanctification & Good Works

Warm-Up Question:

Describe seasons in your life where you feel you really “grew up.” What were some of the circumstances that caused this?

READ: Romans 6:1-13, 20-22

I. Sanctification: A WAR

- ▶ From Romans 6:8-14 and WCF 13, what’s a definition for sanctification?
- ▶ [READ] Gal. 5:17 & Rom. 7:21-25 and describe the war we should feel inside us. Share a personal or recent way you’ve experienced such an internal war?
- ▶ How should this understanding lead us to be increasingly honest about our sin and chief repenters before God and others?

II. Sanctification: A PROCESS or JOURNEY

- ▶ Paul says he is “pressing on” and “straining forward” in Phil. 3:12-14. On a scale of 1-10, where are you in pressing on and straining forward toward holiness and becoming like Christ? What is your struggle in this?
- ▶ Would you say you are as gracious with others in their sanctification as God is gracious with you in yours? How can you grow in this area?

III. Sanctification: The WORK

- ▶ [READ] Phil. 2:12-13. From this passage, is your sanctification your work or God’s work? Explain.
- ▶ What are some of the “means of grace” or “holy habits” by which God gives you spiritual growth? Which ones are you most strong & weak?
- ▶ How does soaking in the gospel and your union with Christ ultimately lead to our sanctification? (See Jude 21 or Titus 2:11-14 for help)

VI. Sanctification: The END/GOAL

- ▶ Read Heb. 12:14, Phil. 1:6, Rom. 6:22 and describe the end goal of your sanctification? How does that end motivate our effort to be like Christ?
- ▶ Share one take away that you’d God like to help you work on this week.

WCF 13: Sanctification

1. They who are effectually called and regenerated, having a new heart and a new spirit created in them, are further sanctified, really and personally, through the virtue of Christ’s death and resurrection, by His Word and Spirit dwelling in them; the dominion of the whole body of sin is destroyed, and the several lusts thereof are more and more weakened and mortified, and they more and more quickened and strengthened, in all saving graces, to the practice of true holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.
2. This sanctification is throughout in the whole man, yet imperfect in this life: there abides still some remnants of corruption in every part, whence arises a continual and irreconcilable war, the flesh lusting against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh.
3. In which war, although the remaining corruption for a time may much prevail, yet, through the continual supply of strength from the sanctifying Spirit of Christ, the regenerate part doth overcome: and so the saints grow in grace, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.



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