

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by

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Sanctification

*“For this is the will of God, even your sanctification,
that ye should abstain from fornication:
that every one of you should know how to possess his vessel
in sanctification and honour.”*

I Thess. 4: 3-4

Some pondering thoughts on the instrumentality of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is commonly understood by most that the gospel is a means that brings “Life and immortality to light” (II Tim. 1:10). With this in mind, I have been brought to remembrance that our Lord had indicated that the word has a “sanctifying” effect upon the believer.

“They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. SANCTIFY them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so I have also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be SANCTIFIED through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which SHALL BELIEVE on me through their word” (John 17: 16-20).

Imputed SANCTIFICATION (a divine setting apart) has been granted to the elect heir of grace. “For God has made Christ to become our SANCTIFICATION by the operation of the Spirit as well as our RIGHTEOUSNESS (I Corin. 1:30). Yet, there is a continuing work of the Spirit through the word (gospel) as it is proclaimed to those blessed to believe it. As regarding the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, He expresses, “That He might SANCTIFY it and cleanse it (His Church) with the washing of water by the WORD” (Eph. 5:26).

Beloved, it is NOT by the proclamation of the law and commandments that causes the heir of grace to delight and be edified, for by the law brings condemnation, the knowledge of sin, and reveals our inability to obey it to every jot and tittle. For the law

is not of faith (Gala. 3:12), and without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb. 11:6). Dear brethren, we are spiritually encouraged by the word of truth, the word of GRACE as we are under the preached word and study it by reading its content. By this the new man is being instructed in the will of the Almighty and being admonished to walk righteousness. The new man of the heart delights in holiness and desires to walk in gospel obedience, and this obedience which is evidence of the New Born child of God is accomplished by Christ Spirit “working in us to both will and to do of his good pleasure” (Phil.2:13). It is not by the means of man’s striving about by some duty, or obligation but by the working of the Spirit of Christ manifesting evidence of new creature in Christ, as led by the Spirit of Christ.

Oh! how pure and sweet is the taste of the word of God’s grace as we are blessed to hear and read its precious expressions of the love of God towards undeserving sinners and to reveal the glorious “benefits” to God’s elect church. How glorious is the word that is the vehicle the Spirit uses to reveal unto us the attributes and the characteristics of HE that is the WORD that became flesh and dwelt among we mortals here below (John 1:14).

How blessed we are as a people, chosen of God to believe upon this God /Man Christ Jesus, and to have such blessed hope of sins forgiven and everlasting life in the realms of immortal glory. Oh! to hear the “gifts” of Gods Church stand before the congregation and herald the “Good News” of the gospel of GRACE; what joy to hear over and over again that sweet message of sovereign, free grace distributed to a depraved lot, to hear of Christ all sufficiency, and His divine mercy extended to those born in iniquity, ruined by sins degradation, and separated from God. Yes beloved, our loving Christ has sought us and saved us and WASHING us with his precious word revealing that peace has be made between Almighty God and sinful man through His darling Son Jesus Christ of whom we have to do. May God continue to edify the soul, the mind and the heart through His preserved word as we grow in the grace and knowledge of Him of whom we have to do, even Christ Jesus.

“How sweet are thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!” (Psa. 119:103).

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