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Sanctification

Adult and Young People's Quarterly

INTRODUCTION

There seems to be much confusion, thus much controversy, concerning the Scriptural doctrine of entire sanctification. Some are prone to think because one text has to do with a particular phase of the Christian life, or experience, that all other scriptures on sanctification must have the same meaning. We need to understand that the word is used in different ways in both the Old and New Testaments. There are verses that speak of sanctification as a work wrought in the heart of man by God. There are others that speak of sanctification of the outward life, of vessels, etc.

We do not purpose to deal with all of these different lines of thought in this quarterly. The word *sanctify* means "to make holy, pure, clean, clear." It also includes the idea of consecrating to a holy purpose. However, the more common use is to cleanse.

Understanding that there are various senses of the term sanctification, we wish to deal more particularly with the subject as it pertains to the soul of man in bringing him back to the state or plane of holiness that God made possible through the gift of His dear Son.

We define it briefly in this introduction as a definite cleansing, subsequent to conversion, from the depravity of the nature, which condition remains in the regenerated until the time of the experience we term "entire sanctification," a work contemporary with Holy Ghost baptism.

Entire sanctification brings the soul back to the place where man desires to use every member as God originally intended and gives him power to use every member rightly. We trust that through the study of these lessons you will come to a knowledge of how to obtain the experience, if you do not have it, for the Word declares, "This is the will of God."

THE WAY OF TRUTH

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PUBLISHERS OF CHURCH OF GOD LITERATURE

LESSON NUMBER ONE FOR JULY 3

THE FALLEN NATURE

Scriptures: Psalm 51:5; 58:3; Jeremiah 17:9; Matthew 20:20-24; Luke 9:51-55.

Psalm 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Psalm 58:3 The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Matthew 20:20 Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him.

21 And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom.

22 But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able.

23 And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized

with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father.

24 And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren.

Luke 9:51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,

52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.

54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?

55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.

Memory Verse: The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?—Jeremiah 17:9.

Aim: To produce an understanding of the fallen nature of man.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	Psalm 51	Thursday	Matthew 20
Tuesday	Psalm 58	Friday	Luke 9
Wednesday	Jeremiah 17	Saturday	Romans 7

INTRODUCTION

No one can doubt the existence of something in the inner man that causes him to do things that are injurious to himself and society. Men have sought vainly to overcome this infection by the process of punishment and education but have utterly failed. In recent years they have advanced the idea that if a child is given freedom of expression in all things it will help in this serious situation; but the result has been

very disappointing, for we have on our hands the greatest disregard for discipline in the lives of youth that recent history has revealed. Man is not a mere animal. He is a never-dying soul in which has been sown seeds of wickedness; and unless this evil condition is eradicated, the fruits of the soul shall continue to be evil. It is a marvelous thing that in the gospel of the Lord Jesus provision has been made that the depraved nature can be eradicated. It is our desire not only to point out the depraved nature in the heart of the natural man, but also to encourage all who are without the blessing of freedom from the depraved nature to seek and obtain it.

MEDITATIONS

DAVID'S TESTIMONY—Psalm 51:5—Shapen in iniquity—The only sin for which a man is accountable is the sin he committed by breaking the law of God, for the righteousness of God requires that He condemn no man for anything for which he is not responsible. But in this verse, we see a state of iniquity being built right into the very fiber and being of the unborn child. After he makes his way into the world and begins to function as a separate and self-willed individual, his natural bent is to give expression to the nature that is shapen in iniquity. This tendency can be suppressed, and by correction a child can be greatly helped, but this does not remove the depraved nature that was inherited from the foreparents. There is only one remedy for that, and that is the blood of Christ, which not only removes the guilt and the penalty of committed sin in justification, but also through the experience of sanctification removes the nature that causes man to give expression to sinful acts.

EFFECTS OF FALLEN NATURE EXTENSIVE—Psalm 58:3—As soon as they were born—The thought here expressed is that as soon as a new life begins to express itself, it is in an evil way. If a child is not curbed, it will be found very soon throwing itself on the floor, screaming and kicking. Even in the crib it will be found demonstrating anger. As years go on, this condition will become more violent, causing the individual to use his intellect with everything at his command to gain his purpose and pamper the self-life. There is only one cure for this—the gospel of Jesus.

JEREMIAH DESCRIBES THE FALLEN NATURE—Jeremiah 17:9—Desperately wicked—“Desperately” carries with it the thought of the extreme, appallingly bad, or intensely degraded. An example of this was seen in Adolf Hitler's life, who without pity or mercy destroyed the lives of thousands. But the seed of this awful wickedness is planted in every heart. It is the imprint of the character of Satan on the souls of men. Satan is all bad, whereas God is all good.

DEPRAVITY AMONG THE DISCIPLES—Matthew 20:20—And desiring—We all know that human beings have only such things as God has bestowed upon them. It is within the power of God to give, and He does supply the needs of man freely. It is also within the power of man to get. He can get by prayer. He can take the way of Satan and get by stealth or force. He can use guile. These last two methods of obtaining human desires are the expressions of the Satanic character stamped upon the soul. The redeemed soul, bearing the image of Christ, seeks the good of others ahead of himself. The disciples of Jesus, though they had their personal sins forgiven, were influenced by the inner urges that compelled them to seek personal advantage.

SEEKING ADVANTAGE—Matthew 20:21—My two sons—Not only was this the ambition of the mother, but it appears as though the two disciples had the same self-seeking desire. (See Verse 24.) They had not been filled with the Spirit of God, which would have miraculously changed their attitude.

COST OF VICTORY—Matthew 20:22—Drink of the cup—As yet, the disciples understood little of what a consecrated life to the cause of God would cost. Their lack of power was demonstrated when they forsook Christ at the trial. They thought they could suffer with Christ, and truly they desired to; but when the test came, they found that they did not have the power to do so. A compromised gospel does not carry with it persecution of any great degree, but the true disciple of Christ is certain to face the fury of the evil forces that rule the world. **Verse 23—Shall drink indeed**—Their display of power did not come until after the day of Pentecost, when the coming of the Holy Spirit delivered the disciples from their depraved nature and imparted to them the power to face the persecutions. **Verse 24—The ten heard it**—Selfishness was displayed here in the ten. They were thinking more of themselves than the welfare of the kingdom of God. The sanctified soldier of the cross is ready to give his life in the defense of the gospel.

A DISPLAY OF CARNALITY—Luke 9:51—Steadfastly set—The devotion of Christ to the purpose of His Father could not be shaken even with the prospects of death. He is our example of a consecrated life, which everyone should try to follow. **Verse 53—Did not receive him**—There was great rivalry between the Jews and the Samaritans; and since Jesus made it known that He was going on to Jerusalem to be among the Jews, the Samaritans would not entertain Him at all. This is a demonstration of the childish, carnal and fallen nature of man. **Verse 54—Command fire**—The disciples were saved men, but this expression shows that they still had retaliation in their

hearts and lacked love for their enemies. Jesus showed a mastery over their human impulse. **Verse 55—Rebuked them**—It is also a rebuke to anyone who is of the same spirit today. The spirit of war is retaliation on a large scale and cannot be the course of action by a Christian nation.

CONCLUSION

We see from the Scriptures' account in this lesson that even the disciples of Christ had something in their souls that caused them, at times, to act in a way that was displeasing to Christ. Many church organizations teach that the cleansing of the fallen nature is accomplished in justification; and since this is impossible they never do receive the experience, and their work shows it. Paul declared that Christ gave His blood to sanctify the Church (Ephesians 5:25-27). So if Christ gave His blood to sanctify the Church, of necessity a man must be in the Church before he can be sanctified. Entrance is gained into the Church by the new birth, so it follows that justification has to precede sanctification.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. Where did man get his fallen nature?
2. How does a man who is ruled by a fallen nature act?
3. What caused the Samaritans to refuse Christ His request?
4. Why did James and John assume the attitude they did?
5. Why did Christ conduct Himself toward the Samaritans as He did?
6. What was the state of heart that caused certain disciples to seek the favorite places in Christ's kingdom?
7. Explain the actions of the other ten.
8. What is the conduct of the average church member today?

LESSON NUMBER TWO FOR JULY 10

THE MEANING OF SANCTIFICATION

Scriptures: Acts 19:1-6; Romans 12:1; Ephesians 1:13; I Thessalonians 5:23; Romans 5:1, 2; II Timothy 2:21.

Acts 19:1 And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye

Memory Verse: I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.—Romans 12:1.

Aim: To make clear the meaning of sanctification.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday Acts 19
Tuesday Romans 12
Wednesday Ephesians 1

Thursday I Thessalonians 5
Friday Romans 5
Saturday II Timothy 2

INTRODUCTION

The dictionary meaning of *sanctification* is “the act of making holy or clean morally,” also “the act of setting apart for sacred use.” This act of making holy is the part of sanctification done by God in response to faith expressed in the human heart, and the setting apart for sacred use is the part done by man. Since man cannot be neutral but must be a servant of God or of the devil, would it not be much better to seek the experience of sanctification and become an unreserved disciple of

Christ? Some want salvation for the one purpose of escaping the fires of hell, but no one can make progress in the kingdom of God if this is the only purpose in mind. God saves the soul for the glory of His righteous name, and one of the sources of glory for Him is when the newly saved soul becomes a valiant soldier in the great warfare against the kingdom of Satan. No man is the soldier that he could be until he is sanctified. Therefore, sanctification is an absolute necessity to the newly born Christian.

MEDITATIONS

PAUL INSISTS ON SANCTIFICATION—Acts 19:1—Finding certain disciples—These were souls born of the Spirit of God but not fully informed in regard to the divine plan. The soul that is born of the Spirit and is untainted by the powers of Satan is easily led into any truth God shines on his pathway. Paul built only after the divine pattern, and he who would not submit to the divine pattern was rejected.

HOLY GHOST BAPTISM FOLLOWS REGENERATION—Acts 19:2—Since ye believed—Believing on Christ in the heart results in justification, or regeneration. Paul's question was (to these men), "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" They had heard enough gospel to receive deliverance from sin, but the great doctrine of sanctification obtained in Holy Ghost baptism had never been presented to them, so they knew nothing of it. Thousands today know nothing of this doctrine because their leaders do not believe God's Word in regard to it and do not present it to them. What an effect error has in the hands of Satan in depriving the family of God of Holy Ghost power! Let us no longer hold our peace, but rather "shout it from the housetops."

FRUITS OF JOHN'S LABORS—Acts 19:3—John's baptism—John the Baptist, although he was filled with the Holy Ghost, preached only a gospel of repentance as a means of entrance into the kingdom of God. These men had heard the message and had been baptized. Thus they had been regenerated.

PAUL APPROVES JOHN'S MESSAGE—Acts 19:4—Verily baptized—John baptized truly unto repentance, pointing all men to Christ, who would baptize with the Holy Ghost.

HONEST HEARTS QUICK TO OBEY—Acts 19:5—When they heard—Paul spoke at the command and in the power of the Holy Ghost. These who heard were visited by the same Spirit that caused Paul to speak, witnessing to the truth. Desiring more truth that they might walk in it, they at once accepted it. Too many men today have a loyalty to man and his creeds, doctrines, and traditions above loyalty to God and His truth; thus, they cannot have a true experience with God. When we hear, we at once should obey. **Verse 6—Laid his**

hands upon them—There was no drawing back among these men. How easy it is for the Spirit to work when men are willing and obedient! In this account the Holy Ghost saw fit to impart both the gift of tongues and prophecy to them whom He baptized, but He does not always do this. He does all things after the counsel of His own will, never making a mistake.

PAUL'S EARNEST ENTREATY—Romans 12:1—I beseech you—Here is man's side of sanctification. Service to God is not a forced service. It must be freely given by those who would be children of God. The thought contained in the words, *living sacrifice*, is that all the days that we live in God's service our lives must be sanctified to the service of God, being no longer subject to the pursuit of personal ambitions and whims. This is reasonable because the wisdom of God is so infinite, and ours is so limited. No man can order his own life to his eternal good; only God can do this.

SEALED FOR HEAVEN—Ephesians 1:13—Ye were sealed—If a Christian presents himself to God a living sacrifice in sincerity, the Holy Spirit, without fail, comes in and takes possession. The Spirit's presence in the human heart is most plainly known all over heaven and hell and makes itself known to the men of the earth. The sanctified man at once becomes a target of the fiery darts of Satan and a power in the hand of God for the advancement of His kingdom. Note again in this verse the fact is emphasized that the sealing by the Spirit follows the believing on the part of the Christian.

A COMPLETE WORK—I Thessalonians 5:23—Sanctify you wholly—Every part and faculty of the human being must be absolutely clean, and it is, after God sanctifies the soul. So it is evident that sanctification is not something we grow into. It is an instantaneous work performed by God upon the heart of the earnest and obedient seeker. The heart that is free from sin is a citizen of the heavenly kingdom and is destined for that realm of bliss.

STANDING GRACE—Romans 5:1, 2—Justification, through faith in Jesus, sets us at peace with God. Through the same blood that justified us, we also are sanctified, or we obtain this "grace wherein we stand." A justified person cannot, as a rule, exist very long as a Christian unless he goes on to sanctification, for the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit is what enables one to stand the severe storms of life and be victorious in them.

LIVING THE LIFE—II Timothy 2:21—Purge himself—It is not within the power of any man to cleanse himself from the stains of any sin or the element of sin received from his foreparents; but he can act by the imparted power of the Holy Ghost received in sanctification, in

choosing the right in preference to the wrong as revealed by his knowledge of the will and Word of God. In this manner he purges himself of evil.

CONCLUSION

Sanctification is a work done by the Holy Ghost, and of this we may be sure: it is always a complete work in every detail. The entirety of the soul is brought under the control of the Spirit, who in turn orders the conduct of the body; so the entirety of man is subject to the Spirit and will of God. God sanctifies only that which man has. If he has many talents, they are all sanctified; if he has only one, it is sanctified. If he has a temper, God sanctifies that. He does not take the temper away; but where the temper was previously used in evil escapades, it is now used in the holy war against evil. Jesus showed a temper when He upset the money changers' tables in the temple and used a whip on the Jews. But this was a holy demonstration of temper. Paul declared that he died daily. This was after he was sanctified, but he was still human and had normal desires. Every desire was carefully examined in the light of the will and Word of God, and any desire that was not consistent with them was rejected.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. Give the dictionary meaning of sanctification.
2. Who is in line for sanctification?
3. What is man's part in sanctification?
4. What is God's part?
5. What should be the attitude of a believer toward sanctification?
6. What happens to the temper of a man in sanctification?
7. What does it mean to be sealed by the Holy Ghost?
8. What does it mean to be sanctified wholly?

LESSON NUMBER THREE FOR JULY 17

SANCTIFICATION IN THE ATONEMENT

Scriptures: Exodus 29:20, 21; Hebrews 10:10, 14; John 17:19; Hebrews 13:12; Romans 8:29, 30, 32.

Exodus 29:20 Then shalt thou kill the ram, and take of his blood, and put it upon the tip of the right ear of Aaron, and upon the tip of the right ear of his sons, and upon the thumb of their right hand, and upon the great toe of their right foot, and sprinkle the blood upon the altar round about.

21 And thou shalt take of the blood that is upon the altar, and of the anointing oil, and sprinkle it upon Aaron, and upon his garments, and upon his sons, and upon the garments of his sons with him: and he shall be hallowed, and his garments, and his sons, and his sons' garments with him.

Hebrews 10:10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

14 For by one offering he hath per-

fectured for ever them that are sanctified.

John 17:19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

Hebrews 13:12 Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

Romans 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Memory Verse: Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.—Hebrews 13:12.

Aim: To show that it is by the blood of Christ shed on the cross that a person is sanctified.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday Exodus 29
Tuesday Hebrews 10
Wednesday John 17

Thursday Hebrews 13
Friday Romans 8
Saturday Ephesians 5

INTRODUCTION

The Word of God reveals that the experience of sanctification was made possible to man by the death of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary. This being true, it is a matter which should engage the most serious attention of every soul, for anything that has connection with the blood of Christ is always of the greatest of importance and can never, with impunity, be treated lightly. This subject is offensive to the carnal man, but it is God's plan, and He is not of a mind to change His plan. Man must change his if he desires to live forever. But, oh, how hard it is for the unregenerated man to humble his heart and acknowledge the wisdom of God in all His doings! Heaven is a realm of beauty, purity, and peace. The elements of war, carnality and self-

ish aggrandizement cannot enter heaven; therefore, the human soul who makes it into heaven will have been changed from these things.

MEDITATIONS

SANCTIFICATION FORESHADOWED—Exodus 29:20—Take of his blood—After the fall in the Garden of Eden, God made the promise of Christ to the hopeless pair. However, He was not to be manifested until the end of time. But God instituted the practice of the sacrifice of animals, whose blood was shed as a symbol of the blood of Christ. He who believed the promises of God and carried out His commands had the approval of God upon him.

Exodus 29:21—Shall be hallowed—It was not the blood of the ram that hallowed Aaron and his sons. It was obedience to the will and Word of God. Again, the blood was a symbol of the blood of Christ, the perfect sacrifice that was to come.

SACRIFICE OF CHRIST SANCTIFIES—Hebrews 10:10—Offering of the body—Maliciously the Jews sought to destroy Christ, but from God's standpoint, on His part, it was a sacrifice of the body of His Son, given in behalf of even those who crucified Him. No man receives the experience as an involuntary act, but rather as a result of faith. The doctrine of sanctification is greatly neglected, and thus the religious world is denied the blessings that flow from it.

THE POWER OF CHRIST'S SACRIFICE—Hebrews 10:14—Perfected forever—The sacrifice of Christ was of such magnitude that it never needs to be repeated, and those who are benefited by it (if they continue in faith) are eternally perfect. Thus, sanctification fits the soul for its eternal home in heaven.

CHRIST'S EXAMPLE—John 17:19—Sanctify myself—Jesus said He sanctified Himself. He gave Himself. He gave His all freely. The purpose was not for His own benefit, but for us that we might be sanctified through the truth. Whoever fights sanctification is fighting the truth. Though we may not understand it perfectly, we can accept it as Bible and trust God who does understand. We can comprehend enough to get the experience to please God, and to satisfy our own soul. Then as more is revealed to us, it only enriches our souls.

THE BLOOD SANCTIFIES—Hebrews 13:12—With his own blood—How sacred this is, and how every man should praise and reverence God for His matchless gift of His Son! The experience of sanctification becomes of the greatest of importance in the light of this scripture. The great need of the people is sanctification, and the greatest price was paid to obtain it for them. This being true, it is for this life and should be sought and valued by every believer.

LIKE UNTO CHRIST—Romans 8:29—Image of His Son—The sanctified soul is in the image of Jesus Christ—a very high calling,

indeed—even pursuing the work that He did while on earth; for we are told (John 14:12) that the believer will do the works of Christ and even do greater works than He did. Oh, how far short the religious world today falls in attaining to the plan of God! **Verse 30—Predestinate**—The predestinated is the “whosoever will may come.” Thank God, it is possible for any soul who desires it, to be delivered from the prison house of sin and the bondage of Satan!

NO LACK IN CHRIST—Romans 8:32—All things—Not only did the blood of Christ make the way for us to be delivered from sin and perfected in God, but also it purchased for us everything that the soul and body need in the long journey of life. These “all things” are given freely and abundantly in response to faith.

CONCLUSION

Paul declared in Ephesians 5 that Christ gave His blood to sanctify the Church. We gain entrance into the Church by the new birth; therefore, sanctification is only for the believer, because it can only follow regeneration. Abundant proof is given in the Scriptures that sanctification is purchased by the blood of Christ; therefore, it is our duty to set this teaching before the people with great earnestness.

R. R. Byrum wrote: “In full accord with Jesus’ prayer that those who are already converted should be sanctified are the words of Paul that sanctification is for the Church, which is composed of only those who are regenerated. ... That this sanctification is not a consecration, but a cleansing of the heart, and not a purification of life is clear from the fact ... that the sanctification of men which God effects is always a cleansing of the heart. Men are exhorted to cleanse their own lives, or to be holy.”—*Christian Theology*.

Everyone who knows this truth should further acquaint himself with it and labor to interest others in it.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. Why should we give serious attention to the subject of sanctification?
2. What did the blood of animals signify before Christ’s coming?
3. What was it that hallowed Aaron when the blood of the ram was applied?
4. Describe the power of Christ’s sacrifice.
5. Why did Christ sanctify Himself?
6. Of what value is sanctification to us?
7. What does it mean to be conformed to the image of His Son?
8. Where does your experience with God stand today?

LESSON NUMBER FOUR FOR JULY 24
THE OLD TESTAMENT TYPE

Scriptures: Exodus 40:17-34; Hebrews 9:2-7.

Exodus 40:17 And it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was reared up.

18 And Moses reared up the tabernacle, and fastened his sockets, and set up the boards thereof, and put in the bars thereof, and reared up his pillars.

19 And he spread abroad the tent over the tabernacle, and put the covering of the tent above upon it; as the Lord commanded Moses.

20 And he took and put the testimony into the ark, and set the staves on the ark, and put the mercy seat above upon the ark:

21 And he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the veil of the covering, and covered the ark of the testimony; as the Lord commanded Moses.

22 And he put the table in the tent of the congregation, upon the side of the tabernacle northward, without the veil.

23 And he set the bread in order upon it before the Lord; as the Lord had commanded Moses.

24 And he put the candlestick in the tent of the congregation, over against the table, on the side of the tabernacle southward.

25 And he lighted the lamps before the Lord; as the Lord commanded Moses.

26 And he put the golden altar in the tent of the congregation before the veil:

27 And he burnt sweet incense thereon; as the Lord commanded Moses.

28 And he set up the hanging at the door of the tabernacle.

29 And he put the altar of burnt offering by the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation, and offered upon it the

burnt offering and the meat offering; as the Lord commanded Moses.

30 And he set the laver between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and put water there, to wash withal.

31 And Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet thereat:

32 When they went into the tent of the congregation, and when they came near unto the altar, they washed; as the Lord commanded Moses.

33 And he reared up the court round about the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the hanging of the court gate. So Moses finished the work.

34 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

Hebrews 9:2 For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary.

3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all;

4 Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;

5 And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly.

6 Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God.

7 But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people.

Memory Verse: For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.—Hebrews 9:24.

Aim: To locate the shadow of sanctification.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	Exodus 25:8-40; 26:31-35	Thursday	Exodus 40
Tuesday	Exodus 27:1-8; 29:43-46; 30:1-10, 17-21, 26-33	Friday	Leviticus 6:13; 9:22-24; 10:1, 2; Numbers 17
Wednesday	Exodus 36:35, 37; 38:1-8	Saturday	Hebrews 9

INTRODUCTION

God conceived the entire plan of salvation before He created the world, and with each succeeding dispensation a little more light was disclosed in regard to His plan, until in these last days the full light is shining. During the age of the law, when God first gave His Word in written form and instituted the worship in the tabernacle, there were practices and articles that were representative of the experience of sanctification in the gospel age. The understanding of those will help to improve our knowledge of God's plan. The ultimate purpose of getting this information is to better our own experience and help others to a like experience.

MEDITATIONS

GOD'S COMMAND OBEYED—Exodus 40:17-19—The tabernacle was reared ... as the Lord commanded Moses—The secret of having a good experience with the Lord today is to do as He has commanded. No wonder the glory of the Lord came upon the place so mightily and so gloriously! God had been obeyed in every detail. God had made His plan known to Moses. Moses had understood it and carried out God's will in every part, not substituting his ideas or the ideas of anyone else. God's Word is just as plain to us today, and His favor can be obtained just as surely, if we will take His way and walk in the light He sheds upon us through His Word.

THE MEMORY VERSE—Hebrews 9:24—Christ is not entered—The aim of this lesson is to locate the shadow of sanctification. Hebrews 9:24 says, "Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true ..." The two rooms of this tabernacle which Moses had constructed according to the pattern God gave him, were the figures of the true tabernacle or holy places. Hebrews 9 deals with the same construction that is defined so carefully in Exodus. If you will read the Daily Bible Readings given at the beginning of this lesson, you will recognize the description in Hebrews 9.

THE FIRST TABERNACLE—Hebrews 9:2; Exodus 40:22, 23—We will consider Hebrews 9:2 first, "Wherein was the candlestick, and table, and shewbread." This typifies the experience of justification. There was no way into the Holiest place without first going through this room. The candlestick represents Christ as our Light, and the shewbread represents Christ as the Bread of life. Exodus 40:22 says

the table was placed on the north side of the tabernacle without the veil. Verse 23 says the bread was placed upon it. Verse 24 says the candlestick was put in the same room with the table on the south side. Exodus 40 describes the Holiest place first and then says the table was placed without the veil, meaning on the other side of it, or in the first room. Verse 29 mentions the brazen altar and verse 30, the laver. The brazen altar received the sacrifice made for sins, which, of course, typifies Christ, the great Sacrifice. The laver contained water where Moses and Aaron and his sons must wash before entering the tabernacle, lest they die. This symbolizes the “washing of regeneration” (Titus 3:5).

THE HOLIEST OF ALL—Hebrews 9:3—After the second veil—Coming from the first room into the second, one had to lift the second curtain. The curtain over the doorway into the first room was usually called the curtain, and this second one, the veil. Or it might be called the second veil. So after the second veil came the second room of the entire tabernacle, or the “Holiest of all.” **Verse 4—The golden censer**—We read in Leviticus 16:12 that the high priest was to fill the censer with coals from off the altar and bring “his hands full of sweet incense” into the Holiest place and put the incense on the burning coals in the censer that “the incense may cover the mercy seat that is upon the testimony.” The mercy seat was the covering of the ark, where the cherubims were, verse 5. The great Spirit of God designed this place for His habitation. His will now is to dwell in the heart of the believer, which is more precious to Him than this throne of gold was. Inside this golden ark was the “golden pot that had manna,” which represented the heavenly manna upon which our souls would feed when He dwelt within us in sanctifying grace. “Aaron’s rod that budded” symbolized the Holy Ghost leadership in the sanctified experience. “The tables of the covenant” were the tables of stone on which God wrote the Ten Commandments with His finger. This foreshadowed the Holy Ghost’s writing God’s Word on the fleshly tables of our heart. (See Hebrews 10:16 and Jeremiah 31:33, 34.)

Exodus 40:20, 21—Put the testimony into the ark—This was the first thing that was placed in the ark; the other things were added later. This gives the order in which the furniture was placed in the whole tabernacle, starting with the ark in the furthest room. **Verse 26—The golden altar**—This was placed just outside the second veil in the first room, because it represented the preparation to be made in order to enter the Holiest of all. In Exodus 30:10 we read that Aaron made an atonement on this golden altar once a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonements which, of course, foreshadowed the blood of Christ. This corresponds to Hebrews 9:7.

THE GLORY OF THE HOLY GHOST FORESHADOWED—Exodus 40:34—Filled the tabernacle—This is plainly a shadow of the experience in Acts 2:2-4 on the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Ghost came and filled the hearts of the believers. It also says, “There came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.” The command in Ephesians 5:18 is, “Be filled with the Spirit.” Just as God filled the tabernacle with His glory so long ago, so now He wills to fill us with His Spirit, as we find in I Corinthians 6:19, “Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost?”

CONCLUSION

If we have read carefully the Daily Bible Readings and have studied this lesson prayerfully with an open heart, we have, no doubt, been able to locate the shadow of sanctification, and we can now see more clearly our privileges in the gospel. It is our privilege today to be sanctified wholly by faith in the blood of Christ. We can be filled with God’s glory and have His approval upon our souls. We can offer up to Him the spiritual sacrifice with which He is well-pleased. He can use our consecrated labors to bring others to the light. Praise God for His marvelous plan of full redemption! May we seek constantly to render unto Him the praise and honor and glory that is due His matchless name. May we ever seek His favor by walking in the light and obeying His every command diligently.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. What do the laver and the brazen altar typify as being essential in obtaining salvation?
2. To what do the candlesticks and the table of shewbread correspond in the experience of justification?
3. What is the meaning of the golden altar?
4. What experience was obtained beyond the second veil? What was there that was not to be found in the first room of the tabernacle?
5. How does this show the fulness of salvation in the work of sanctification?
6. Explain Hebrews 9:24, “The holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true.”

LESSON NUMBER FIVE FOR JULY 31

GOD'S COMMAND

Scriptures: Psalm 119:89; Hebrews 12:14; Ephesians 5:18; Matthew 25:4, 10; Genesis 17:1; Psalm 24:3, 4.

Psalm 119:89 For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven.

Hebrews 12:14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit.

Matthew 25:4 But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage:

and the door was shut.

Genesis 17:1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

Psalm 24:3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?

4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

Memory Verse: Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

—I Peter 1:16.

Aim: To show that God intends that His Word operate in the human heart.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	Psalm 119:89-104	Thursday	Matthew 25
Tuesday	Hebrews 12	Friday	Genesis 17
Wednesday	Ephesians 5	Saturday	Psalm 24

INTRODUCTION

We are God's creation, and the Word tells us that we were created for His pleasure. Every good thing that we have came from the hands of our loving heavenly Father; so why should it seem at all unreasonable for Him to prescribe the laws by which we should live? We must remember that He is all-wise and knows everything from the beginning to the end and that everything He does is for our good. We should indeed be very grateful for the privilege of having such a wise and all-powerful Being to guide us through our pilgrimage here on earth. This world is not our home, but we are merely strangers sojourning here for a few short years, preparing ourselves for the life to come. Let us ever remember that all of us have an eternity-bound soul and our greatest concern should be its welfare. Too many of us are paying too much attention to the welfare of our physical bodies and are neglecting the most important part of our being, our soul. What is our life? In terms of eternity, it is merely a vapor which appeareth for a little while and then vanisheth away. Just looking at this matter from the viewpoint of common sense and reasoning, wouldn't it seem wise to

have the greatest concern for our indestructible souls instead of our natural bodies, which are so soon to perish and return to the dust from which they came? How I wish I could indelibly impress upon the minds of everyone the deep truth of Jesus' words to Martha, when He told her there was but one thing needful, and that was to know God and do His holy will! What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and then lose his soul in a never-ending hell? Nothing, absolutely nothing. This is, by far, the most important question that confronts us human beings, and it deserves our most serious and earnest consideration.

MEDITATIONS

GOD'S WORD IS EVERLASTING—Psalm 119:89—For ever, O Lord, thy word—The Word has always existed, for we read in St. John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word." And it shall never pass away, for Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." God has ordained that we should live by His Word and obey His every command, for it is His Word that shall judge us in the last great day. Thus, it behooves us to read and meditate upon it diligently so that we may know what His commands are. It is not safe to merely follow the preacher, for there are too many false prophets in the world today. We are commanded to be careful how we hear and to search the Scriptures to see whether or not the things we hear are the truth. This is the only way we can be sure of the truth, and it is the truth that shall make us free, free from sin and the entanglements of the world.

GOD REQUIRES A HOLY LIFE—Hebrews 12:14—Follow peace with all men—We are to live in peace with our fellowmen, that is, we must so conduct our lives that we do nothing to gender strife or, as Paul said, "As much as lieth within you, live peaceably with all men." **And holiness**—Here is a very plain and easy-to-be-understood statement that without holiness no man shall see the Lord. To be holy merely means to be free from sin. God hates sin, and no one with sin in his soul can possibly enter heaven. Sin is a transgression of any known command of God; and if we love God, we will keep His commandments and thus be perfect, as in Matthew 5:48, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

GOD REQUIRES A SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE—Ephesians 5:18—Be not drunk with wine—To spend your money for wine and strong drink is wrong, for the Word says, "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which satisfieth not?" Also, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." The drink habit is one of the worst evils that curses this fair land of ours, and the saddest part of it is, that it

is increasing at an alarming rate. **But be filled with the Spirit**—It is the Spirit who gives the Christian strength to live a life that will be pleasing in the sight of God, for He has promised to fill the hungry soul. It is God's will that everyone be filled with the Holy Ghost, and He is ready and willing to give the Holy Spirit to him who asks in faith believing, as we read in Luke 11:13, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" It is the Spirit who gives us grace to stand and to be overcomers over all the forces of evil. We are all familiar with the great change that was wrought in the life of Peter when the Spirit came in. Before, he followed Christ afar off; and when the test came, he denied his Lord. But after the day of Pentecost, he had the power and courage to stand before the powers of evil and to say, "We ought to obey God rather than men."

THE PARABLE—Matthew 25:4—But the wise took oil—If we be wise, we will want everything that God has for us, and we will earnestly strive to go on unto perfection, as commanded in Hebrews 6:1, or in other words, seek the experience of sanctification. If we do not do this, sooner or later the oil will burn out of our lamps, and our lights will go out and leave us with merely an empty profession. **Verse 10—And the door was shut**—We must keep our experience with God up-to-date at all times, for we know not what another day may bring forth. Jesus tells us to watch and pray, for we know not what hour the Son of man cometh. When God shuts the door of opportunity, no one can open it, and so far as we are concerned, it will forever be closed. What a sad awakening it will be for the millions who are ushered into the presence of God with sin in their souls as they hear the saddest of all words, "Depart from me into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

GOD REQUIRES PERFECTION—Genesis 17:1—Walk before me, and be thou perfect—Here is another perfectly plain command that refutes the present-day belief among so many nominal Christians that we must sin more or less every day. God told Abram to walk before Him and be perfect, or in other words, he was to be perfect in his obedience to every command of God. We have one recorded instance of his implicit obedience in his preparation to offer up his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice. He believed God, and it was counted to him for righteousness. We, too, can be perfect in our generation, if we keep all the known commands of God. If we love God with all our hearts, this will be easy to do, for the Word says that His commandments are not grievous.

GOD REQUIRES A PURE HEART—Psalm 24:3—Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord?—Or who shall be saved or have the approval of God upon his life? Verse 4—He that hath clean

hands—The plan of salvation has not changed with the passing years, for in David’s day, in order to have God’s approval, people had to have “clean hands” that were not defiled by the stain of sin. They also were required to have a pure heart, a heart full of love and compassion for God and their fellowmen. The vain and the proud have always been an abomination in the sight of God. It is the meek and humble souls who are pleasing in the sight of God. The Word says that Moses was the meekest of men, and we know that he was greatly used of the Lord in delivering the Israelites from Egyptian bondage. At first, King Saul was very meek and humble, and the approval of the Lord was upon him; but in later years he lost his humility, and the Lord left him. In the end he committed suicide. Let us ever cultivate a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price, and remember the words of Jesus, “Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.” **Nor sworn deceitfully**—God wants us to deal honestly with our fellowmen and never to take any unfair advantage of anyone, or in other words, we must do unto others as we would they do unto us.

CONCLUSION

The study of this lesson should impress our minds with the reasonableness of God in desiring to guide our lives as it pleases Him. It should help us to realize that everything God does is right and cannot be improved upon. If we are submissive to Him, everything He does will work out for our own good. He has given us His Word to live by. How happy we will be if we only heed His every command willingly! Remember, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God,” and that is God’s holy Word, or the Bible. We have within us a soul that only the pure teachings of God’s Word can satisfy; and unless it receives this spiritual nourishment, it will die. I do hope these comments will constrain you to leave nothing undone that will help you to live a life in tune with God’s holy Word.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. Why should God have the right to order our lives?
2. What is the most important thing in life?
3. How long shall the Word of God endure?
4. What is meant by holiness?
5. What is meant by a Spirit-filled life?
6. What is the significance of the oil in the parable of the ten virgins?
7. How can we be perfect in the sight of God?
8. What benefit have you personally derived from the study of this lesson?

LESSON NUMBER SIX FOR AUGUST 7

WHO CAN BE SANCTIFIED?

Scriptures: John 14:16, 17; Acts 5:32; Matthew 5:6; Luke 11:13; Acts 2:38; Ephesians 5:25-27.

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

Acts 5:32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

Matthew 5:6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Luke 11:13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father

give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Memory Verse: Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.—Ephesians 5:25, 26.

Aim: To teach who can be sanctified.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday John 14
Tuesday Acts 5
Wednesday Matthew 5

Thursday Luke 11:1-13
Friday Acts 2
Saturday Ephesians 5

INTRODUCTION

The Word of God teaches that all things were created by God, for He alone is the true and living God and the source of all energy and power. Therefore, man is a product of His great wisdom and creative power, made in His image, an offspring of God. We learn from the Scriptures that God is no respecter of persons; so it follows He would, if permitted, bestow upon all His created people the richest blessings that He has to offer. He is not at liberty to impart His rich blessings promiscuously, but only as men conform to the teachings of His Word. So in a broad sense all can receive the blessing of sanctification if they will, and all do who meet the requirements.

MEDITATIONS

THE PROMISE TO THE DISCIPLES—John 14:16—He shall give—In answer to the prayer of Jesus, the priceless Gift of the Spirit

was to be made available to the disciples, and not only to the disciples of that day, but also to all who should follow after. Jesus, who had comforted them while on earth, was soon to depart; but He promised to send a Comforter who would abide forever, which was the Holy Ghost, whose coming into the heart by faith would cleanse it, making it a fit place for His dwelling.

COMFORTER FOR BELIEVERS ONLY—John 14:17—Whom the world cannot receive—Here is further proof that sanctification is a work separate from justification. Sinners (“the world”) cannot receive the Holy Spirit. They must first be converted.

OBTAINED BY OBEDIENCE—Acts 5:32—That obey him—The first step in obedience is to yield to the convicting Spirit of God in turning away from a life of sin. The next step is to hunger and thirst to the point where seeking begins, which is rewarded by asking in faith.

DILIGENCE REWARDED—Matthew 5:6—Hunger and thirst—He who has a good appetite for the things of the Lord is sure to receive a good supply of His bounties. However, the blessings of God are valuable and are not passed out as pearls before swine. If we would receive the blessings of God, we must deeply desire them and be subject to them. He who has a deep desire for God’s ways is blessed indeed.

THE SEEKER REWARDED—Luke 11:13—That ask him—According to God’s plan, to receive we must ask. This verse teaches that God is eager and ever ready to sanctify, to bestow His Spirit upon the believer who asks Him. A good parent gives gladly and freely to his child, but God will give His Spirit more freely and more gladly; so none needs to be destitute of the Spirit of God. Remember, however, it is only the redeemed who are in a position to receive.

WHO CAN RECEIVE THE SPIRIT?—Acts 2:38—Ye shall receive—Those who had repented and embraced the doctrine of water baptism as a testimony to the world of the remission of sins were in line to receive the Holy Ghost with His heart cleansing. (We are not saying a person cannot be sanctified before being baptized—Paul was and so was Cornelius and his household.) He comes into the heart only as an invited guest, and as such we must treat Him.

SANCTIFICATION FOR THE CHURCH—Ephesians 5:25, 26—Sanctify it—It is quite evident from this scripture that to receive the blessings of sanctification we must first be members of God’s church. Membership is gained not after the modern pattern of church joining but by the new birth. So all who are born again, thus being members of God’s church, are eligible to receive sanctification. Again, this proves beyond refutation that sanctification is a work separate

from justification. Consequently, they who teach that the experience is received in justification shut themselves against the receiving of the Spirit. He who fails to receive the Spirit is soon going to find himself powerless in the face of temptation, resorting back to the popular defense that it is impossible to live without sin.

CHURCH TO BE PURE—Ephesians 5:27—Not having spot or wrinkle—The Church in the justified state is not so powerful, beautiful or dependable as in the sanctified state. In a normal congregation, there are always certain to be babes in Christ who must be led into the sanctified experience. It is the work of the ministry to teach and exhort, but the Holy Ghost does the cleansing.

CONCLUSION

In this lesson we have presented scriptures that show sanctification is for the true disciple of Christ, one who is truly saved from his sins. For John has quoted the Master as saying “the world” cannot receive the Holy Spirit.

As we receive light we must walk in it. So if you are saved and have not yet been filled with the Holy Spirit, it is your sacred duty to obtain the experience by presenting your all to the Lord a living sacrifice.

We would like to point out that sanctification is Holy Ghost baptism and Holy Ghost baptism is sanctification! The Bible does not teach these as separate “works” as some religious groups do. Neither does the Bible teach that one must speak in “tongues” as an evidence.

Having received such a wonderful experience you need to impart this truth to others, for he who has or receives the experience has something that far exceeds anything the world has to offer.

Peter declared in Acts 2:37, 38 that the promise was to as many as the Lord shall call, and in His calling He declared, “It shall come to pass that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. Describe God’s attitude toward His people.
2. What hinders God’s giving sanctification to everyone?
3. What are the acts of obedience that are required in order to receive the Gift?
4. Can half-hearted seeking bring the blessing?
5. How willing is God to give the blessing? (Luke 11:13).
6. Can anyone outside God’s church receive the blessing of sanctification?
7. What does sanctification do for the Church?
8. Why is a man blessed because he hungers and thirsts after righteousness?

LESSON NUMBER SEVEN FOR AUGUST 14

THE COST OF SANCTIFICATION

Scriptures: Luke 14:28-30; I Corinthians 6:19; Exodus 21:5, 6; Luke 22:42.

Luke 14:28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?

29 Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,

30 Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.

I Corinthians 6:19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

Exodus 21:5 And if the servant shall plainly say, I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free:

6 Then his master shall bring him unto the judges; he shall also bring him to the door, or unto the door post; and his master shall bore his ear through with an awl; and he shall serve him for ever.

Luke 22:42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

Memory Verse: But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.—Philippians 3:7.

Aim: To show that full surrender of ourselves to God is the price we pay for the experience of sanctification.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday Luke 14:1-14
Tuesday Luke 14:15-35
Wednesday I Corinthians 6

Thursday Philippians 3
Friday Luke 22:1-23
Saturday Luke 22:24-46

INTRODUCTION

It is necessary to count the cost of sanctification, or should we better say of full salvation, before entering upon the experience, for it is a disgrace and an affront to God for one to start in the race and fail after starting. To be sanctified wholly in Christ Jesus demands that we separate ourselves from personal ambitions. Of course, anyone who would value personal ambitions and worldly gain above complete devotion to Christ would be very unwise indeed, for God has promised to give His kingdom to the little flock who has been true to the gospel. This embraces life eternal in a state of indescribable bliss. It may cause some or much suffering as the cost is paid, but it is the best investment that can be made. At any rate the suffering can in no wise be compared to the suffering of eternal separation from God. Paul declared the sufferings of the present time could in no wise be compared to the glory which shall be revealed in us.

MEDITATIONS

ALL THINGS COST—Luke 14:28—Which of you—We are all faced with the same necessity of paying the cost of both spiritual and material things. He who wisely counts the cost and pays accordingly is the man who prospers the best. Let us all count the cost in the light of eternal verities. **Verse 29—Laid the foundation—**The foundation was true to plan, but that alone was not enough to afford a place of habitation. So a start in the Christian race will afford no satisfaction in eternity at all; rather, it will serve as a source of reproach to the soul. Let us start the race with a determination to finish it, regardless of the cost. There is no man who cannot pay the cost of eternal salvation if he so desires. **Verse 30—Not able to finish—**This is what was said, but the truth of the matter was that he was not willing to pay the cost.

IN CONTROL OF THE SPIRIT—I Corinthians 6:19—Ye are not your own—By the right of creation all souls belong to God, but the Christian belongs to God also by the redeeming blood of Jesus. The soul who submits fully to Christ receives of His Spirit, who takes complete control of his soul and body, the Spirit of God having taken up His abode there. God does not rule the human heart as a tyrant, as does the devil. He rules alone by the force of love, and everything He does is for the purpose of helping and blessing the hearts in which He abides. Therefore, how true is the scripture which states that His yoke is easy and His burden light! I trust the solemn declaration by God, "Ye are not your own," will command reverence and due benevolence to the great God who has created you.

BONDAGE MORE DESIRED THAN FREEDOM—Exodus 21:5—Not go out—It was the law among the Israelites that after a Hebrew servant had completed six years of service to his master, he was to be offered his freedom. If his master had given him a wife, he had to leave her behind if he decided to leave. His freedom meant not only the loss of his family but also the protection of his master's house. He had to count the cost and abide by his decision. **Verse 6—Serve him forever—**This man's decision was to affect the rest of his life. It meant something. The love of home, wife, children, and a fair master compelled him to choose servitude rather than freedom. Likewise, a man must choose to accept the bondage of Christ and yield to His yoke, which is easy, if he is to have His protection and blessing.

THE FLESH RECOILS FROM SUFFERING—Luke 22:42—If thou be willing—As Christ counted the cost of the redemption of mankind, His flesh shrank from the suffering but personal discipline and divine obedience kept Him willingly in line with the decree of the Father. We, as Christians, must conform to the same consecration if we are to be found worthy of dwelling eternally with God.

CONCLUSION

F. G. Smith wrote:

“This blessed state of perfect holiness cannot be entered by sinners. The Holy Ghost is given, not to the world, but to those who are chosen out of the world—to those who are God’s believing and obedient children. Therefore the first essential is that the candidate for sanctification possess a clear, definite experience of Bible justification. But this is not all. Justification brings us into a holy relation with God; therefore in our converted experience the outward life must be brought into harmony with the truth, so that we are living sinless lives; otherwise we do not remain in a justified state at all, hence are not candidates for sanctification, the second work of grace.

“The seeker must make a complete surrender to the whole will of God, a perfect consecration of time, talents, and all to His service, and himself be sacredly the Lord’s for time and for eternity. ... When this perfect consecration is made, God will be pleased to send His Holy Spirit in sanctifying power purging the heart from the very nature of sin, and will Himself take up His abode in the pure and devoted soul. Hallelujah!”—*What the Bible Teaches*.

It is a very solemn thought that there is a possibility that our souls might miss the great prize of eternal life. It is also a solemn thought that we have the blessed privilege of entertaining the Holy Spirit of God as a Guest in our hearts. The cost of this latter fact is negligible when we consider the reward; so it is foolish to halt between two opinions. It is futile to try to serve two masters, and it is disastrous to turn from the true and living God. Count the cost, pay the price, lay hold on eternal life. Encourage others to do the same, for they who turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever, world without end!

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. Why is it better not to start than to start and fail?
2. Consider the difference between the cost of being eternally saved and being eternally lost.
3. Is the cost actually too great for anyone to pay?
4. Why did Christ desire the cup to pass from Him?
5. What was the cost the servant had to pay in order to retain the privilege of staying with his master?
6. Why is it wise to submit to the control of the Spirit?
7. Why cannot a Christian say he is his own?
8. What attitude should we take toward the Holy Spirit in our lives?

LESSON NUMBER EIGHT FOR AUGUST 21

THE CRUCIFIED LIFE

Scriptures: Romans 12:1; John 14:16, 17; Galatians 3:14; Acts 26:18; Romans 5:5; Acts 1:13, 14; 2:4.

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

Galatians 3:14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance

among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

Romans 5:5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Acts 1:13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James.

14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Memory Verse: How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?—Luke 11:13b.

Aim: To show how the experience of sanctification is obtained.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	Romans 12:1-9	Thursday	Acts 26
Tuesday	Romans 12:10-21	Friday	Acts 1
Wednesday	John 14	Saturday	Acts 2

INTRODUCTION

Crucifixion was the cruelest form of punishment in early days and ended in the annihilation of the victim. Christ was subjected to this great indignity, but the process failed to accomplish the aim of His persecutors, for the Spirit of God raised Him from the dead, and, behold, He is alive forevermore. Amen! Thank God, by this miracle of miracles we, too, live today and have the hope of eternal life. Every soul who takes the name of Jesus in truth and makes His Word the sole rule of his life must, too, taste of crucifixion, not in the corporal sense, but in the spiritual sense. Selfish human ambitions must be separated from the human heart and the heart become the throne of God. Paul declared that they who be Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts thereof. Of course, it is understood that

the things the Word of God permits for the flesh are permissible, but it is the misuse of the flesh in an effort to derive more pleasure from that source than was intended that is forbidden.

MEDITATIONS

LIVING A SACRIFICED LIFE—Romans 12:1—Living sacrifice—Under the law the animals sacrificed were killed outright, and their blood fully spilled; but in the Christian race we are requested to present ourselves a living sacrifice to live the gospel out in our lives every day according to His will. We are never again to appropriate any effort to selfish advantage. If we seek to please ourselves, we have ceased to be a living sacrifice. To the carnal mind this seems very hard and impossible, but the peace and joy that flows from such a sacrifice can be known only by those who have experienced it.

YIELDING TO DIVINE CONTROL—John 14:16—Abide with you—It is only in a crucified life that the Holy Spirit will abide. He will not abide in the heart that refuses to submit to Him, for He will not take second place. He cannot accomplish His purpose when another rules the human heart. **Verse 17—Shall be in you**—The work of regeneration had already been wrought by the Holy Ghost in the heart of the disciples, and the Spirit was with them, but He had not yet taken up His abode in a crucified life. This was the end toward which the Spirit was working. The “shall be in you” was fulfilled as they waited in the upper room on the Day of Pentecost.

THE CRUCIFIED LIFE FOR ALL—Galatians 3:14—Promise of the Spirit—Abraham had many experiences with God and lived a life of faith. Such a life was to be the heritage of the Gentiles who previous to this time were aliens to the commonwealth of God. The promise was the Spirit of God through faith. But note the sacrifice Abraham had to make when God said, “Arise and get thee out of this country unto a land which I will show thee.” He had to forsake his old associates and travel to a land he knew not. “If we be Christ’s, then are we Abraham’s seed and heirs according to the promise.”

Acts 26:18—Inheritance—It is only they who have turned their backs on the world and yielded their lives to Christ who are going to receive of the inheritance. Paul was called to preach the crucified life to the Gentiles, and this he did faithfully. The gospel was the same for the Gentiles as for the Jews, and when both had yielded themselves fully to God, there existed no enmity between them.

A LIFE OF HOPE—Romans 5:5—Love of God—Even though a crucified life separates our souls from the vain things of this world and alienates many of our old friends from our company, we should not be ashamed nor hang our heads. In Christ and the hope we have in Him

we have made a greater gain by far than our loss has been. We are not ashamed of the humility of the Christian life, but we dwell in hope of the life that now is and the one to come.

EXAMPLES OF SACRIFICE—Acts 1:13—They were come in—These men were all active in the business of life; some were fishermen, some, tax collectors, etc. Trained for these things and gaining a good livelihood, they now were launching out on a life of faith which might separate them from home and definite income. But such is the consecration every man and woman must make if the blessing of Holy Ghost control is to be a reality. There is a difference in laboring for the meat which perisheth and that which endureth unto eternal life.

Acts 1:14—In prayer—Prayer is communion with God. The sacrifice loses its load when close contact is kept with God. A prayerless people is a powerless people. Prayers read from a book are of little value when it comes to meeting temptation or surrendering to Christ. This group of saints were praying from the heart in the Spirit, and they received power as a result.

FULL SURRENDER BRINGS VICTORY—Acts 2:4—Were all filled—Continued prayer had brought the disciples to the place where they were willing to make the complete sacrifice and the flesh had been crucified. Thus, they were ready for the Spirit when He came. No one was ever refused the Spirit who was as earnest as these people.

CONCLUSION

The title of this lesson, no doubt, is repulsive to the carnal mind, or the soul who has not been redeemed from the sin of his life. But to the soul who delights in the will of God, and has drunk of the river of life, and eaten of the tree of life, it is sweet music. He can truly sing, "Goodbye, Old World, I'm Through." The trouble is that too many are posing as disciples of Christ and making a feeble attempt at witnessing, while they are still living in sin. Such know nothing of the life of crucifixion, and their labors are tiresome, yielding none of the rich fruits of peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. We trust this lesson will bring light to some sin-sick soul and inspire him to take the cure.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. What is a crucified life in the Bible sense?
2. What are the advantages of a crucified life?
3. Under what condition will the Comforter take up His eternal abode in the heart?
4. To whom is the Comforter offered?
5. How was the promise of the Spirit made possible to the Gentiles?
6. Need we be ashamed of the crucified life? Why?
7. What did Abraham sacrifice for God?

LESSON NUMBER NINE FOR AUGUST 28

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Scriptures: Acts 2:1-8, 12-20.

Acts 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaean?

8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What

meaneth this?

13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

18 And on my servants and on my hand-maidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

19 And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come.

Memory Verse: And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

—Acts 2:4.

Aim: To give a Bible example of sanctification.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday Matthew 28:16-20

Tuesday Mark 16:15-20

Wednesday Luke 24:36-53

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Acts 1:1-14

Acts 2:1-21

Acts 15:6-9; 10:34, 35

INTRODUCTION

We notice from our Daily Bible Readings how the disciples were definitely instructed by the Master to tarry in Jerusalem until they received what He promised the Father would send. Many contend that the disciples were converted on the day of Pentecost, but a careful study of John 17 will show that they were already converted. Referring to Acts 15:8, 9

and also Acts 10:34, 35, it is made clear that when they received the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost, they were purified, or sanctified. See also Ephesians 5:25-27, which says He “gave himself” for the Church, meaning those who were converted, that He might sanctify and cleanse, or “purify” it. Acts 15:8, 9 says their hearts were “purified” when they received the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost; also the Gentiles in Acts 10 were “purified” when they received the Holy Ghost. Therefore, we can say the experience received on the day of Pentecost was sanctification.

MEDITATIONS

PENTECOST—Acts 2:1—Day of Pentecost was fully come—Leviticus 23:15, 16 gives a law for a feast of Pentecost. Some think this was in commemoration of the giving of the law on Sinai. However, the Bible does not say it was, or wasn't. Pentecost was to be counted fifty days from the Feast of First-fruits, two days after Passover. **One accord—**We suppose this includes the 120 who were present at the choosing of Matthias. With one accord they were awaiting the “promise of the Father.” They had no ill-will toward each other, no quarrels to be settled, no dissensions; the way was clear, and God's perfect will was being sought.

SUPERNATURAL HAPPENINGS—Acts 2:2—Sound from heaven—When God gave the law to Moses on Mt. Sinai there were thunders and lightnings, and the mount burned with fire, and it is possible the people thought of this as the Spirit was given on this day. **Verse 3—Cloven tongues like as of fire—**God was now fulfilling what Jesus had promised the disciples. They were to wait in Jerusalem until the Father gave them the Holy Spirit before they started out on their mission to carry the gospel to the ends of the world.

THE HOLY GHOST HIMSELF—Acts 2:4—All filled with the Holy Ghost—All in the upper room were filled with the Spirit, but the Scriptures do not say all spoke in other tongues, and it is error to teach that a person must speak in some other tongue as an evidence of Holy Ghost baptism. Only those the Spirit gave “utterance” to spoke in other tongues. How many was that? The Bible does not say. But every true disciple is to be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18).

THE UNLEARNED GALILEANS SPEAK LANGUAGES—Acts 2:5—Every nation under heaven—Men had come to this Pentecost feast from many different countries. They were devout. God saw that in their hearts they were open for truth, and He purposed to let them all hear the gospel while assembled here. It was for this purpose the Spirit gave the disciples utterance to speak with other tongues, not, as some suppose, for an evidence that they had received the Holy Ghost. If God meant anything that happened that day as an evidence outside the Holy Ghost Himself, it would have been the mighty, rushing wind or the fire

which had so forcibly designated the presence of God at Sinai. **Verses 6-8—In his own language**—There was no confusion, no disorder, no babbling of tongues, but “every man heard them speak in his own language.” The secret of it all is found in verse 11: they heard them speak in their own tongues “the wonderful works of God.”

TONGUES NOT AN EVIDENCE—Acts 2:12—What meaneth this?—If “tongues” had been meant for an evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost, it would have been contained in prophecy, and these “devout men” would have recognized it at once and would not have been filled with wonder, saying, “What meaneth this?”

PETER’S EXPLANATION—Acts 2:14-16—This is that—God gave Peter wisdom to answer the questions in the minds of the people on this notable day.

JOEL’S PROPHECY—Acts 2:17-20—Sons and your daughters ... servants ... and ... handmaidens—This proves that God calls women as well as men to preach. It also shows that the Holy Ghost enables the one to preach whom God calls. You miss the mark when you go to school merely to learn to preach and you rely entirely on your education to get your sermons. God only can enable one to preach the gospel, and He does so by the Spirit.

CONCLUSION

“People have preached and written much about the evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. But to ask for our evidence that we have the Holy Ghost is like asking for an evidence of the existence of the sun overhead. The sun does not need a witness to testify for it: *it stands for itself*; and the work which it performs—illuminating the earth, and kissing the face of nature with its genial rays of light and warmth, causing vegetation to spring forth, bringing life and joy, happiness and health, to the sons of men—these works proclaim unmistakably, without further witness, the sun and his glory. Likewise the Holy Ghost *stands for Himself as the witness*. ‘The Spirit *itself* beareth witness with our spirit’ (Romans 8:16; Hebrews 10:14, 15); while the works which He performs—purifying the heart, teaching, comforting, guiding, unifying—show forth His power and glory.”—F. G. Smith, *What the Bible Teaches*.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. For what were the disciples waiting in the upper room?
2. What is the difference between speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance and working oneself up or getting under the devil’s power?
3. How do we know the disciples were sanctified on the day of Pentecost?
4. How can we know we are sanctified?

LESSON NUMBER TEN FOR SEPTEMBER 4

THE STORY OF STEPHEN

Scriptures: Acts 6:5, 6, 8-15; 7:54-60.

Acts 6:5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:

6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called the synagogue of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen.

10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

11 Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God.

12 And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon him, and caught him, and brought him to the council,

13 And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

14 For we have heard him say, that this

Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

Acts 7:54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Memory Verse: And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit.—Ephesians 5:18.

Aim: To show how the Holy Spirit worked through Stephen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday Acts 6:1-8
Tuesday Acts 6:9-15
Wednesday Acts 7:1-14

Thursday Acts 7:15-36
Friday Acts 7:37-50
Saturday Acts 7:51-60

INTRODUCTION

The history of the life of Stephen surely reveals the marvelous way in which the Holy Spirit can work through one who is completely sold out to God. There is hardly any limit to what can be accomplished when God is permitted to work unhindered in any meek and humble

child of God. From the first, Stephen's great faith in God manifested itself by the many miracles which he wrought among the people. The Spirit gave him the boldness to declare the pure truth of the gospel to those who hated the believers and declared that Jesus was an imposter. As he spake under the anointing of the Spirit, refuting their arguments that Jesus was not the Christ, they became exceedingly angry and sought to put him to death. The Holy Spirit is our greatest need, for it is He who endues us with power, power to live a pure and holy life, power to witness for Christ boldly under all circumstances, power to keep self under control at all times, and power to resist Satan at every turn. In our own strength we are far too weak to cope with such a powerful enemy as the devil. It is the lack of the Spirit that has brought about all the divisions in modern Christendom. It is the devil's plan to divide and scatter God's people and thus bring about strife and confusion where unity should prevail. The Spirit of God dwelling in our hearts will cause us to love one another with a pure heart fervently and to go about settling, the Bible way, any difference that might arise. There are no differences so great that cannot be settled in this way, for it is just natural for the Spirit of God to bind us together with the cords of love. Also, we are commanded to strive to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Without the Spirit, self rises up, and the desire to have our own way and preeminence asserts itself so that no adjustment can be made. Thus, we have another group of people off to themselves and the starting of another sect, which is just another victory for Satan.

MEDITATIONS

STEPHEN CHOSEN FOR SPECIAL SERVICE—Acts 6:5—Stephen, a man full of ... the Holy Ghost—I know of no greater recommendation any man could possibly have than to be filled with the Spirit of God. It is certain that a man of this character will manifest the fruits of the Spirit and will prove a blessing to those with whom he comes in contact. **Verse 6—And when they had prayed**—I want you to take particular notice that the disciples did not hurriedly choose Stephen and the other six, but they took the matter to God in prayer and got His will in the matter. How necessary it is that we let God direct our every activity in matters like this! We have His promise that if we will acknowledge Him in all our ways He will direct our paths.

GOD MANIFESTS HIS POWER THROUGH STEPHEN—Acts 6:8—Did great wonders and miracles—The Word tells us that signs and wonders shall follow the preaching of the truth; so this was merely the natural results that should attend the preaching of real God-called, Holy Ghost ministers. **Verse 9—Disputing with Stephen**—Holy Ghost preaching will accomplish one of two things: if

you receive it, it tenders your heart; but if you rebel against it, you play right into the hands of the devil and are likely to become very bitter against the truth, as happened in this case. **Verse 10—They were not able to resist**—There is nothing more powerful than the Spirit of God; and though these men knew that Stephen was a man of God and was speaking the truth, their rebellious hearts would not permit them to acknowledge it. It is indeed dangerous to rebel against the truth, for when we do, we become agents of the devil and are very likely to receive a delusion from God, from which there is no escape.

THE FRUIT OF A REBELLIOUS HEART—Acts 6:11-14—As Stephen, empowered by the Holy Ghost, spake to these wicked sectarians, he put to naught every argument they could bring forth that Jesus was not the Christ. Satan, working through them, caused them to resort to lies and treachery to make an end of this godly man. There does not seem to be anything too mean or low-down that the devil will not tempt men to do to accomplish his ungodly ends. In this case we see how these religious professors themselves violated one of the Ten Commandments in bringing false witnesses against Stephen. Let us desire truth above everything else in this world, for it is only the pure, unadulterated truth of God's holy Word that will see us safely through the portals of heaven.

THE GLORY OF GOD RADIATED FROM STEPHEN—Acts 6:15—Saw his face as ... the face of an angel—Although Stephen was being falsely accused and being tried for his very life, he was not afraid, but spake boldly the truth about Christ. As he spoke, the glory of heaven shone from his face; but even this seemed to have no effect upon the stony hearts of those in the council room. Then followed one of the most beautiful discourses of the Bible as Stephen reiterated the story of the Israelites from the time of Abraham down to the coming of Christ. As he told them of the sins of their fathers, they became very angry and wanted to kill him; but the Holy Spirit comforted him, and he was not afraid, neither did he bear them any malice.

THE SPIRIT CONDEMNS THEM—Acts 7:54—They were cut to the heart—As Stephen related to them how their fathers had persecuted the prophets and had killed them who had foretold the coming of Jesus, of whom they were now the betrayers and murderers, they were cut to the heart and became exceedingly angry.

THE SPIRIT COMFORTS STEPHEN—Acts 7:55, 56—And saw the glory of God—God has promised never to leave us nor forsake us, but to be with us to the very end. Here we see a fulfillment of this promise. The heavens were opened, and Stephen was permitted to see the glory of heaven and His loving Savior at the right hand of the Father. How trivial death must have seemed to him then as he viewed with expectancy his future abode! Let us remember that regardless of

the seeming severity of the ordeal before us, God will furnish the necessary grace to go through victoriously.

STEPHEN STONED—Acts 7:57-59—And ran upon him—When Stephen exclaimed, “Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God,” the hearts of his accusers became enraged, and they dragged him from the council room and outside the city, where they stoned him to death. Even through this ordeal, his courage and faith in God did not fail, for he was able to call on God and say, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”

THE VICTORY—Acts 7:60—And he kneeled down—Here we see Stephen manifesting the true Christian spirit to the very end. Though they were killing him, he had a love and compassion for them that constrained him to ask God not to lay this sin to their charge. He surely followed the example of his loving Savior to the very end. Stephen was the first person who lost his life for the cause of Christ. His courage and steadfastness to the end, with such a glorious victory over the forces of evil, certainly should prove a great encouragement to all of us to press the battle on with renewed courage and energy.

CONCLUSION

As we follow the life of Stephen and see how marvelously the Spirit led him successfully through every situation, and how God used him in performing many miracles among the people, we ought to be convinced of the futility of attempting to run the Christian race without the infilling of the Holy Spirit. We may never face stoning as did Stephen, but we are confronted with the same devil that he was. Satan is a much more formidable foe than most people realize. It is through the Spirit that God enables us to have victory over all the attacks of the devil, and without Him, it is impossible to stay on the winning side. We are commanded by the Scriptures to put on the WHOLE armor of God, which is comprehended in the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Ephesians 6:13, “Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. What is the main cause of division in religious groups?
2. What exceptional qualification did Stephen have for the new work assigned to him?
3. How was he chosen for his work?
4. In what ways did the Spirit manifest Himself through Stephen?
5. Why were the rulers and scribes unable to resist the spirit by which he spake?
6. What caused them to be so rebellious against the truth?
7. How did the Lord comfort Stephen in his last hour?

LESSON NUMBER ELEVEN FOR SEPTEMBER 11

FRUITS OF A SANCTIFIED LIFE

Scriptures: Acts 3:1-7, 12-16; Acts 2:45; Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:22, 23.

Acts 3:1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath

glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.

14 But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;

15 And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

Acts 2:45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Memory Verse: For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth.—Ephesians 5:9.

Aim: To show what God does with a sanctified soul.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday Ephesians 5:9-21

Tuesday Acts 3:1-11

Wednesday Acts 3:12-26

Thursday Acts 1

Friday Acts 2:37-47

Saturday Galatians 5

INTRODUCTION

We find from reading the fifteenth chapter of Saint John the seriousness of failing to bring forth fruit. Christ is the vine, and we are the branches upon which the fruit is born. He declares that if we fail as branches to bear fruit, we shall be taken away. Furthermore, every branch that bears fruit He purges that it may bring forth more fruit. God is glorified when we bring forth much fruit. He will not tolerate a

lazy Christian. If a soul refuses to bear fruit, God takes him away; so it is necessary that we concern ourselves about fruit-bearing and seek to work with God in producing fruit. Some of the fruits are love, joy, peace; and the existence of these in the life of a Christian is sure to result in the salvation of souls and the healing of the sick and suffering. Of course, the greatest fruit is produced in a sanctified life, because the Spirit of God dwells in the heart and seeks to direct fully.

MEDITATIONS

THE DISCIPLES BORE FRUIT—Acts 3:1—Hour of prayer—

One of the sources of great power in the lives of the early church, and the thing that enabled them to produce fruit, was their practice of prayer. Prayer is just as essential for Christians today as it was for them then.

A SAD PICTURE—Acts 3:2—Was carried—Nearly every man desires to be normal and capable of doing those things which God created him to do. But here was a man who had been very seriously handicapped from birth, and to his knowledge there was no hope of ever being normal.

Acts 3:3—Asked an alms—It was a poor living that anyone could make by such a procedure; yet there was nothing he could do. No doubt, many of whom he asked were like Peter and John, having neither silver nor gold. **Verse 4—Look on us—**Silver and gold was all this cripple was interested in receiving, but John and Peter were conscious of the power that dwelt within them.

Acts 3:5—Expecting—This was music to the beggar's ears, for he was always on the receiving end, yet receiving little. The sincere and earnest attitude of these men aroused his hopes.

Acts 3:6—Such as I have—What could these poor fishermen give if they had neither silver nor gold? There are things that far outweigh silver and gold, and Peter and John had these things in abundance! The power of the Holy Ghost to heal abode in these men, and they made room for Him to work. It was in the name of Jesus they spoke, for by His suffering He had purchased deliverance from human suffering and handicap. Peter commanded the man to rise and walk. **Verse 7—Took him—**The cripple was in darkness in regard to what was happening. He made no effort to rise, for such he had never done. Peter perceived the situation and reached down to lift the man up; and as he did so, the Holy Ghost poured strength into the cripple's feet and ankle bones.

HONORING GOD—Acts 3:12—Why marvel—All men should know the power and compassion of God, but they don't; consequently, when there is a public demonstration, they marvel at it. Peter was wise in refusing to receive the honor, rather giving it all to God.

BOLD PREACHING—Acts 3:13—Ye delivered up—Oh, for men today who will in the face of peril declare, without faltering, the truth, even though it uncovers criminals and produces persecution! These men were not afraid to declare the words of God in any situation. **Verse 15—Killed the Prince of life—**Peter laid the blame right where it belonged. It helped these men to see their true state. We dare not cover up modern sin. A fruit of the Spirit is to uncover the works of darkness and bring forth the works of light. **Verse 16—Faith in his name—**The power in the name of Jesus was manifest here, and no man could deny it, for there was no human power that had been able to effect such a cure. Peter was the vessel through which the fruit of the Spirit was produced, yet he did not fail to give God the glory for furnishing the power with which to do it.

THE FRUIT OF GIVING—Acts 2:45—Sold their possessions ... and parted them—It is often difficult for people to part with their possessions in supporting the gospel work, because to do so leaves less for them to spend upon themselves, so the devil reasons. But these people were fully given over to the cause of Christ, and to sacrifice for Him brought greater pleasure than spending all on themselves.

SOURCE OF POWER—Acts 1:8—Receive power—The power to produce fruit has to come from God. Man's part is to be willing enough to obey and follow God.

SPIRITUAL FRUIT—Galatians 5:22, 23—Fruit of the Spirit—The graces and virtues enumerated in this passage of scripture truly adorn the body of Christ and are bestowed abundantly upon every born again Christian in response to the act of obedience.

CONCLUSION

The family of God is a busy family if God is permitted to have His way; but be sure of this, the devil is always busy trying to slow down the work of the Christian and to mar his fruit. Therefore it is absolutely necessary that every Christian spend much time in prayer and tireless effort in defeating the devil. Many fail because they give heed to Satan, never bringing any fruit to perfection. The fruit of joy has great power in sustaining the Christian, for the strength of the Christian is his joy—the joy of sins forgiven and Christian fellowship.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. Name some of the fruits of a sanctified life.
2. What happens to the soul who bears no fruit?
3. What happens to the soul who bears fruit?
4. What makes it possible for a Christian to bear fruit?
5. What was it that Peter had to offer to the lame man?
6. What far outweighs silver and gold?
7. Who must receive the honor for healing?

LESSON NUMBER TWELVE FOR SEPTEMBER 18

PERFECTING HOLINESS

Scriptures: II Corinthians 6:14-18; 7:1; I John 2:6; I Peter 2:21-23.

II Corinthians 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the

Lord Almighty.

II Corinthians 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

I John 2:6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

I Peter 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously.

Memory Verse: Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.—II Corinthians 7:1.

Aim: To show that the normal sanctified life has growth.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday

II Corinthians 6

Thursday

Mark 1:1-13

Tuesday

I John 2

Friday

Hebrews 12:1-11

Wednesday

I Peter 2

Saturday

Psalms 1

INTRODUCTION

Man is held accountable only for the things that he knows. Since he can be more fruitful in the use of more knowledge of God's righteousness, God endeavors to lead him continually into a better understanding of His Word and will. Today, we may be doing everything we know to do and walking in all the light we have. This is a Christian perfection from man's side; yet from God's side, He can see much that needs improvement in the lives of all of us. Thus, the process of perfecting holiness shall go on in our lives as long as we live. Take, for example, the drunkard who in despair seeks deliverance in Christ and finds it. As he starts the Christian race, he will live in a lower state of holiness in the sight of God than the soldier of the cross who has successfully fought the good fight of faith for many years; yet the converted drunkard is as much saved as the older Christian. That our daily testimony

might be more effective we should work earnestly in endeavoring to perfect holiness in our lives.

MEDITATIONS

A SEPARATE PEOPLE—II Corinthians 6:14—Unequally yoked—Through the practice of joining an organization and professing loyalty to its teaching to the exclusion of all other doctrines, a person is yoked up with every other like member. God has forbidden that we be members of any organization that contains unbelievers, for they are certain to wield an undesirable and restraining influence upon Christians. The discipline of God's army is the Word of God, and any soldier who departs in any way from this Word injures his effectiveness as a soldier. Each soldier rather must strive to be more effective in obeying God's Word.

THE CONTRAST OF HOLINESS AND UNBELIEVERS—II Corinthians 6:15—Christ with Belial—Christ is the Head of the family of God, and Satan is the head of the children of darkness. They have nothing in common in spiritual things. The one family is traveling toward heaven; the other, toward hell. The believer and the infidel are at variance always.

CHILDREN OF GOD—II Corinthians 6:16—Be my people—The two families in the earth are in a perpetual warfare; therefore there can be no peace between them nor do they have anything in common. The temple of God represents the worship of God, and idols represent the pagan worship of heathens. There is no agreement between them. We are to keep our worship free from all their practices. The process of the perfecting of holiness is stopped if we mingle with their worship. As a tropical plant perishes in a cold climate, so the institution of holiness will perish if it is subject to a leadership that is unholy.

SEPARATION COMPULSORY—II Corinthians 6:17—Come out—For the sake of purity and holy Christian growth, it is necessary and imperative that we separate ourselves from every yoke of man and, if need be, stand alone on the Word of God. We are commanded to have no contact with the unclean religions and their unholiness. If we come out when we hear the call, God will receive us. If we refuse to come out, we will lose favor with God.

MY SONS AND DAUGHTERS—II Corinthians 6:18—Will be a Father—Coming out will cause the loss of friends and will generate persecution, but no friend can do for us what God can. To be His son or daughter is to be prized above everything else known to mankind.

PERFECTING HOLINESS—II Corinthians 7:1—Having ... these promises—Since God has laid down the conditions by which we may be His sons and daughters, let us apply ourselves diligently to

meeting these conditions. The Word of God plainly tells us what is legitimate for the flesh and spirit; and as we learn by studying the Word the things that are forbidden, let us cleanse, or separate ourselves from them. In so doing we perfect holiness.

IN HIS STEPS—I John 2:6—As he walked—Anyone who accepts Christ as His personal Savior must seek to walk as Christ walked. His example was perfect, and no mistake will be made in following Him. He who follows Christ daily is certain to perfect holiness.

I Peter 2:21—Were ye called—God found us in sin and saved us by His grace from it. Then started the process of conforming us to the pattern of His dear Son. In connection with the developing of holiness, we see here that there is to be some suffering. It was His suffering that made our salvation possible. We then, too, should follow His example, suffering that we might see God's work go. **Verse 22—Did no sin**—If Christ lived without sin, we are expected to do the same. Sin is not becoming to the house of God, but holiness is; so sin is not found there.

FACING UNJUST TREATMENT—I Peter 2:23—Threatened not—The devil will heap upon the Christian much injustice, using his fellowmen as agents to this end. A Christian cannot reach the devil by striking back at the agent he has used. It is in the hands of God to repay; so we are not to strike back at all, for this is the example that Christ has given.

CONCLUSION

It is Satan and the people who have his nature who fight against the teaching of holiness. The devil is trying his best to make the world believe that his unrighteous and wicked ways are best and much to be desired and will give the greatest pleasure in the end. But anyone who will let himself think can see that Satan is entirely wrong and that following his ways leads to misery, sorrow, pain, woe, and death. Millions are believing his lies, forfeiting their right to the tree of life. It is our duty to tell the truth and to lead men into the experience of holiness.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. To what extent is a man held accountable?
2. Why does God seek to perfect holiness in His children?
3. Why cannot a believer and an infidel get along together?
4. Why does God demand that His people worship separate from the family of Satan?
5. If a Christian who is in a man-made organization hears the truth, what must he do?
6. Why are we always safe in walking in the steps of Jesus?
7. Why are we not permitted to strike back?

LESSON NUMBER THIRTEEN FOR SEPTEMBER 25

THE HOPE OF THE SANCTIFIED

Scriptures: Acts 20:29-35; Ephesians 1:10-14.

Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

33 I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel.

34 Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me.

35 I have showed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the

Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Ephesians 1:10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:

11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

Memory Verse: And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.—Acts 20:32.

Aim: To encourage the Christian by showing the rewards promised to the sanctified.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday Acts 20:1-27
Tuesday Acts 20:28-38
Wednesday Ephesians 1

Thursday II Corinthians 1
Friday Philippians 1
Saturday Colossians 3

INTRODUCTION

To the unbeliever it seems that Christians have no pleasure or satisfaction since they do not indulge in worldly pleasures (which are the sinner's only source of happiness). Christians may be partly responsible for this opinion held by the unsaved, for most Christians do not drink so deeply from the fountain of life as is their privilege, and there is not the display of holy joy there should be. Consequently, the world is not convinced. It is very necessary that we strive to give the truth a freer course in our lives and that we conquer more frequently against

the kingdom of Satan. Christ has promised to go with us, so we need not fear or falter. The more we do for Christ, the greater will be our reward, both here and in the world to come.

God rewards liberally every man who does anything for Him! Jesus declared that even a cup of cold water given in the name of a disciple should not lose its reward. So the sanctified life, which is the highest state of Christian existence in this world, will be sure to receive great rewards. There are, of course, real rewards in this life and great rewards in the life to come. It will encourage the Christian to know the rewards promised to him; so by the medium of this lesson we hope to bring some of these rewards to your attention. No true Christian works for reward alone. It is the love of God and His goodness that inspires him to press on.

MEDITATIONS

FACING FALSE PROPHETS—Acts 20:29—Grievous wolves—

This does not seem to be a desirable inheritance, but every child of God is to be thoroughly tested to try his mettle and to build his character. Jesus said that He would send us forth as sheep among wolves, and that he who has forsaken relatives and land, etc., should receive the same and more in this world with persecution, and eternal life in the world to come. So what may appear to be an evil reward in this world will produce in the end a good reward.

DANGERS FROM WITHIN—Acts 20:30—Men arise—One of the perils in Paul's experience was false brethren. Human ambition will drive men to do great harm to the body of Christ. Many false things are being spoken today, but we must cling to the truth, even though it cost our lives.

EXEMPLARY VIGILANCE—Acts 20:31—Warn every one—This is a remarkable testimony and one we will do well to imitate. One soul is worth more than many worlds, therefore sacrifice in saving one will be repaid and add to the inheritance of the sanctified.

IN GOOD HANDS—Acts 20:32—I commend you to God—It is from God that every good gift is received; no one ever received one good thing from Satan, for he has nothing good to give. We learn from David that God will withhold no good thing from him who will walk uprightly, and it is the sanctified man only who can consistently walk uprightly.

A CLEAR CONSCIENCE—Acts 20:33—Coveted no man's silver—The law says, *Thou shalt not covet*. The sanctifying power of the Holy Ghost makes it possible to bear a testimony such as Paul gave here. A clear conscience is worth more than silver and gold. **Verse 34—These hands—**It is the duty of any congregation to support its pastor, but when unforeseen financial difficulties arise, the God-called

pastor is not above working with his hands. The carnal man would rebel at such an undertaking, and many preachers will not undertake a charge unless certain financial demands are met. Such people are void of the Spirit and the sanctifying grace of Jesus Christ. It is a part of the inheritance of the sanctified to suffer and labor for the furtherance of the kingdom. Fear not; such sacrifice shall receive its proper reward in the world to come.

Acts 20:35—More blessed to give—Again, the carnal mind rebels against giving for the support of the gospel. Yet, to the sanctified it is always more blessed to give than to receive. This is a fruit of the regenerated life and, of course, does not appeal to the sinner.

SPIRITUAL REWARDS—Ephesians 1:10—Gather together—Through the ages the saints have left this earth for their home in heaven, and the time is coming when they all shall be assembled together in that fair land of rest and joy. Many material things today are not under the direct control of Christ. Men of the earth are permitting Satan to use both them and material things in his ungodly work. But the time is coming when God will wrest all things from Satan and give them to the “little flock” (sanctified ones).

INHERITANCE THROUGH CHRIST—Ephesians 1:11—Have obtained—Salvation, along with its many accompanying benefits, is a gift of God and based entirely on a holy or sanctified life. **Verse 12—Praise of his glory—**We are very prone to look only at our side of the story and consider only the benefits that we receive for what we do. There is another side; and even then, we are told that after we have done the very best we can, we still are unprofitable servants. God is pleased when we use what is put into our hands (our time, talents, substance) in His righteous cause. Enoch, in the beginning of the world, had the testimony that he pleased God. We can have the same testimony.

HEAVEN’S SEAL—Ephesians 1:13—Ye were sealed—Having met all the requirements laid down by God, the soul has the seal of heaven placed upon it, which is plainly recognized by devils and angels. It is the Christian’s business, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to keep this purchased possession clear and clean from every transgression, yea, from lukewarmness and indifference. The sanctified soul is a militant soul, pressing daily the battle on the devil’s territory.

INTEREST ON OUR INVESTMENT—Ephesians 1:14—The earnest—The “earnest” is the interest on our spiritual inheritance or reward. The blessing that flows from God is just a small foretaste of what the inheritance shall be. We are waiting now for the redemption of the body, which shall be experienced at the judgment of almighty

God. Eternal youth, eternal joy, eternal rest and eternal glory shall be our inheritance. It is worth waiting and suffering for.

CONCLUSION

“All God’s people are ‘born from above.’ Their conversation is in heaven. Their names ‘are written in heaven.’ The Church of God is ‘the kingdom of heaven.’ Thus all our hopes, our desires, and attractions are heavenward. The mind and heart of the Christian is naturally reaching out unto the eternal world. Earth loses its attraction. Its rubies and diamonds, its silver and gold, lose their luster and brilliancy, as the Christian with an eye of faith sees his riches in heaven.

“When time has run its course; when the sun and moon have ceased to shine; when all things pertaining to earth and earth itself have passed away and have been forgotten and left in the dim past, then, clothed with an immortal and glorified body, we shall dwell in a building of God, a house not made with hands, ‘ETERNAL IN THE HEAVENS.’ O my soul, press forward! Pleasures forevermore await thee. O world to come, in exchange for the present! O ages, for a moment! A blessed, eternal communion in the holy, blessed, eternal life of God, in exchange for the sacrifices and sufferings of a few short years of earth. For the joy set before me I willingly endure hardness as a good soldier for Christ Jesus.”—H. M. Riggle, *Beyond The Tomb*.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. What is it that Jesus said if given in the name of a disciple shall not lose its reward?
2. Name some of the rewards of a sanctified life in this world.
3. Name some of the rewards of a sanctified life in the next world.
4. How can we protect ourselves against enemies that arise among us?
5. Is there any reward in suffering for Christ?
6. What are the benefits of suffering with Him?
7. What is the “earnest of our inheritance”?
8. How does God get glory from our lives?

Name _____

Class _____

Sanctification

ADULT & YOUNG PEOPLE

FOR THIS QUARTER:

L#1	July 3	The Fallen Nature	Page 3
L#2	July 10	The Meaning of Sanctification	Page 7
L#3	July 17	Sanctification in the Atonement	Page 11
L#4	July 24	The Old Testament Type	Page 14
L#5	July 31	God's Command	Page 18
L#6	August 7	Who Can Be Sanctified?	Page 22
L#7	August 14	The Cost of Sanctification	Page 25
L#8	August 21	The Crucified Life	Page 28
L#9	August 28	The Day of Pentecost	Page 31
L#10	September 4	The Story of Stephen	Page 34
L#11	September 11	Fruits of a Sanctified Life	Page 38
L#12	September 18	Perfecting Holiness	Page 41
L#13	September 25	The Hope of the Sanctified	Page 44