

The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life

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Student's Study Guide

Dr. Stanford E. Murrell

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Part I The Life

“You Christians seem to have a religion that makes you miserable. You are like a man with a headache. He does not want to get rid of his head, but it hurts him to keep it. You cannot expect outsiders to seek earnestly for anything so uncomfortable” (Source Unknown).

Chapter 1 Is it Scriptural?

Proposition.

Jesus Christ is to be the Saviour from the penalty of sin and the Savior from its power.

Scriptural Proof.

- *Luke 1:74 That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear.*
 - *2 Corinthians 2:14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.*
 - *Romans 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.*
 - *Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.*
1. Can we believe the Savior, who was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities, could possibly be satisfied with the many meager Christian lives in the Church today?

Answer.

2. The *Bible* says, *“He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil” (1 John 3:8).* Can the church ever imagine that this is beyond His power, and that He finds Himself unable to accomplish the thing He was manifested to do?

Answer.

Complete Deliverance from Sin

3. What spiritual truth should the believer concentrate on?

Answer.

4. Provide Scriptural evidence the victory of Christ delivers us from our sins, our bondage, and our defilement.

Answer.

Sin Contrary to God

5. In the matter of sin shall we continue to sin that grace may abound?

Answer.

6. Do we make void the law through faith?

Answer.

7. Can we suppose the Holy God who hates sin in the sinner is willing to tolerate it in the Christian?

Answer.

Power over Sin

8. What must be done with the Bible if we say that it is impossible for God to deliver man out of sin?

Answer.

9. Must I be a believer and yet have no faith that I can be sanctified and live a holy life? Can I never have mastery, can I never have victory over sin? Must it prevail over me as long as I live? What can be done?

Answer.

10. When the believer has some faint glimpse of spiritual hope and divine power what promise of Deuteronomy 20:1-4 can be embraced?

Answer.

Write out Deuteronomy 20:1- 4

Chapter 2

God's Side and Man's Side

“A real work is to be wrought in us and upon us. Sins with which we constantly struggle are to be conquered. Evil habits are to be overcome. Wrong attitude and feelings are to be rooted out. A positive transformation is to take place. So, at least the Bible teaches. Now, somebody must do this” (HWS).

1. What is the believer's part in the matter of sanctification and what is God's part?

Answer.

God's Part in Faith

2. Why are trusting and working contrasted but not contradictory?

Answer.

3. Why must the believer trust his case to another?

Answer.

4. In spiritual matters what will the Lord do to the heart that has been entrusted to His care?

Answer.

5. What is the one great purpose of all the work the Lord does on behalf of those who trust in Him?

Answer.

6. How long must the believer wait to see good results in the area of sanctification?

Answer.

The Potter and the Clay

7. List the three steps of faith and the process of divine development.

Answer.

8. In what way must a believer be like a lump of clay before God?

Answer.

The Maturing Process

9. What expectations must not accompany the process of trusting and waiting on God to work in the heart?

Answer.

10. At any given moment that a life if yielded to the Potter, what is His attitude towards it?

Answer.

11. How long might the maturing process last?

Answer.

Trust in the Foundation

12. What *Scripture* unites the apparently contradictory concepts of trusting only and working?

Answer.

13. In the divine economy what has God declared He cannot do?

Answer.

Chapter 3 The Life Defined

“Most Christians are like a man who was toiling along the road, bending under a heavy burden when a wagon overtook him, and the driver kindly offered to him help on his journey. He joyfully accepted the offer, but when seated in the wagon continued to bend beneath his burden, which he still kept on his shoulders. ‘Why don’t you lay down your burden?’ asked the kind-hearted driver. ‘Oh!’ replied the man, ‘I feel that it is almost too much to ask you to carry me, and I could not think of letting you carry my burden too’” (HWS).

1. What is the only true Christian life and how is it described in *Scripture*?

Answer.

2. List the three chief characteristics of the higher Christian life.

Answer.

3. How is the higher Christian life different from the lower range of Christian experience?

Answer.

Getting Rid of Burdens

4. Most Christians seem determined to carry their own burdens in life despite the invitation of Christ in *Matthew 11:28*. *Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will*

give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. What is a burden?

Answer.

5. What is the first burden or the greatest burden to be carried in life?

Answer.

6. Write out a suggested prayer for the releasing of self to the Saviour.

Answer.

*“Have Thine own way, Lord!
Have Thine own way!
Thou art the Potter,
I am the clay.*

*Mold me and make me after Thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.
Have Thine own way, Lord!
Have Thine own way!*

*Search me and try me, Master, today!
Whiter than snow,
Lord, wash me just now,
As in Thy presence humbly I bow.*

*Have Thine own way, Lord!
Have Thine own way!
Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!
Power, all power, surely is Thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine.*

*Have Thine own way, Lord!
Have Thine own way!
Hold o’er my being absolute sway!
Fill with Thy Spirit ’till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me.”*

Adelaide A. Pollard, 1907

Leaving Burdens with God

7. Is it enough to take our troubles to the Lord?

Answer.

*“If the world from you
withhold of its silver and its gold,
And you have to get along
with meager fare,
Just remember, in His Word,
how He feeds the little bird;
Take your burden to the Lord
and leave it there.*

*Leave it there, leave it there,
Take your burden to the Lord
and leave it there.
If you trust and never doubt,
He will surely bring you out.
Take your burden to the Lord
and leave it there.*

*If your body suffers pain
and your health you can't regain,
And your soul is almost sinking in despair,
Jesus knows the pain you feel,
He can save and He can heal;
Take your burden to the Lord
and leave it there.*

*When your enemies assail and your heart begins to fail,
Don't forget that God in Heaven answers prayer;
He will make a way for you
and will lead you safely through.
Take your burden to the Lord
and leave it there.*

*When your youthful days are gone
and old age is stealing on,
And your body bends beneath
the weight of care;
He will never leave you then,
He'll go with you to the end.
Take your burden to the Lord*

and leave it there.”

Charles A. Tindley, 1916

8. What biblical promise of God, when obeyed, will bring the “*peace of God*” to the heart?

Answer.

Rest in the Lord

9. What is the key that will unlock the whole treasure house of God?

Answer.

*“Encamped along the hills of light,
Ye Christian soldiers, rise.
And press the battle ere the night
Shall veil the glowing skies.*

*Against the foe in vales below
Let all our strength be hurled.
Faith is the victory, we know,
That overcomes the world.*

*Faith is the victory!
Faith is the victory!
O glorious victory,
that overcomes the world.*

*His banner over us is love,
Our sword the Word of God.
We tread the road the saints above
With shouts of triumph trod.*

*By faith, they like a whirlwind’s breath,
Swept on o’er every field.
The faith by which they conquered death
Is still our shining shield.*

*On every hand the foe we find
Drawn up in dread array.
Let tents of ease be left behind,
And onward to the fray.*

*Salvation's helmet on each head,
With truth all girt about,
The earth shall tremble 'neath our tread,
And echo with our shout.*

*To him that overcomes the foe,
White raiment shall be giv'n.
Before the angels he shall know
His name confessed in Heav'n.
Then onward from the hill of light,
Our hearts with love aflame,
We'll vanquish all the hosts of night,
In Jesus' conqu'ring Name."*

John H. Yates, 1891

Freedom from Care

10. What two analogies can illustrate what it means to rest in the Lord?

Answer.

*"Rest of the weary, joy of the sad,
Hope of the dreary, light of the glad;
Home of the stranger,
strength to the end,
Refuge from danger, Savior and Friend!*

*Pillow where lying, love rests its head,
Peace of the dying, life of the dead:
Path of the lowly, prize at the end,
Breath of the holy, Savior and Friend!*

*When my feet stumble, to Thee I'll cry,
Crown of the humble, cross of the high;
When my steps wander, over me bend
Truer and fonder, Savior and Friend!*

*Ever confessing Thee, I will raise
Unto Thee blessing, glory and praise:
All my endeavor, world without end,
Thine to be ever, Savior and Friend!"*

John S. B. Monsell, 1863

"There is such a thing as having one's soul kept in perfect peace here in this life. Child-like trust in God is the key to its attainment" (HWS).

Chapter 4

How to Enter In

1. Should the higher life be looked upon as an attainment? Why or why not?

Answer.

2. Who receives the glory and credit for the believer obtaining the higher life?

Answer.

3. In short who alone receives the gift of the higher life from God and how is it received?

Answer.

Entire Surrender to God

4. Define the term “consecration.”

Answer.

5. What is another word that might convey the sense of consecration?

Answer.

6. How do many Christians think about the Father in heaven?

Answer.

“Better and sweeter than health, or friends, or money or fame, or ease, or prosperity, is the adorable will of our God. It gilds the darkest hours with a divine halo, and sheds brightest sunshine on the gloomiest paths” (HWS).

According to our Faith

7. After a conscious act of surrendering the will and all of life to the Lord what is next in importance?

Answer.

8. Specifically, what is faith to believe?

Answer.

9. Compare the “*then*” in salvation and “*now*” in sanctification.

Answer.

*“In lovingkindness Jesus came
My soul in mercy to reclaim,
And from the depths of sin and shame
Through grace he lifted me.*

*From sinking sand he lifted me,
With tender hand he lifted me,
From shades of night to plains of light,
Oh, praise his name, he lifted me!”*

*He called me long before I heard,
Before my sinful heart was stirred,
But when I took him at his word,
Forgiv'n he lifted me.*

*His brow was pierced
with many a thorn,
His hands by cruel nails were torn,
When from my guilt and grief, forlorn,
In love he lifted me.*

*Now on a higher plane I dwell,
And with my soul I know 'tis well;
Yet how or why, I cannot tell,
He should have lifted me.”*

10. List three characteristics of faith.

Answer.

Believe God will do It

- *Jesus saves me now* – it is He.
- *Jesus saves me now* – it is His work to save.
- *Jesus saves me now* –I am the one to be saved.

- *Jesus saves me now* – He is doing it every moment.

*'Tis the grandest theme
through the ages rung;
'Tis the grandest theme
for a mortal tongue;
'Tis the grandest theme*

*that the world e'er sung,
"Our God is able to deliver thee."*

*He is able to deliver thee,
He is able to deliver thee;
Though by sin oppressed,
go to Him for rest;
"Our God is able to deliver thee."*

*'Tis the grandest theme
in the earth or main;
'Tis the grandest theme
for a mortal strain;
'Tis the grandest theme,
tell the world again,
"Our God is able to deliver thee."*

*'Tis the grandest theme,
let the tidings roll,
To the guilty heart,
to the sinful soul;
Look to God in faith,
He will make thee whole,
"Our God is able to deliver thee."*

William A. Ogden, 1887

Part II Difficulties

Chapter 5 Difficulties Concerning Consecration

1. What is the chief temptation that assaults the soul in considering the matter of consecration?

Answer.

2. List the three-fold order of God's rule in spiritual matters.

Answer.

Put Faith Before Feeling

“You must not wait to feel that you have given yourself, or that God has taken you. You must simply believe it to be the case” (HWS).

3. When a sacrifice was offered to the Lord in the *Old Testament* economy, what happened to it regardless of the attitude of the one who presented the offering?

Answer.

Believing Brings Assurance

*“Blessèd assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.*

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior, all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior, all the day long.*

*Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture
now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.*

*Perfect submission, all is at rest
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness,
lost in His love.*

Fanny Crosby, 1873

4. Based on Deuteronomy 26:17-19 what happened when Israel affirmed God was their God?

Answer.

According to His Will

5. What passage in the *New Testament* provides confidence it is the will of the Father for the Christian to be entirely surrendered to Him?

Answer.

“If you are tempted to doubt whether you really have completely surrendered yourself, face it with the assurance that you have. Don’t even debate the matter. Get rid of such ideas instantly. Get rid of it firmly” (HWS).

Sometimes an initial full surrender of the heart to Christ lingers because of a “*darling sin*” that is provided for and protected. The honest heart knows that a seed of rebellion lies dormant in the soul and will spring up if any movement is made towards full consecration of the heart to Christ. This “*darling sin*” might be a physical habit such as smoking, drinking or substance abuse. This “*darling sin*” might be psychological such as an addiction to pornography or an inappropriate relationship that is difficult to terminate for any number of reasons. Let the heart that wants to be free from the bondage of sin remember this. Once the life is fully surrendered to Christ the “*darling sin*” will be something He must deal with in His own will and way. In other words the issue is not, “*Can I be holy and then present myself to Christ to be holy.*” The issue is, “*Lord, I am unholy and I fear I will not be able to be holy for I know of this area of weakness and rebellion. However, in as far as You will take control of my life in total then I do not have to worry how this “darling sin” is going to be dealt with. I only know you can deal with it and shall according to Your sovereign grace.*” The realization the Savior and not self shall deal with the strongest lust brings freedom to pursue full consecration (Stanford E. Murrell).

God Works in You

6. Once the surrender has been made it needs never be questioned. The next point is to believe God takes what has been surrendered and accepts it. What is the believer to do at this juncture?

Answer.

7. What produces a wavering experience of sanctification?

Answer.

8. Do you completely surrender yourself to Christ at this moment?

Answer.

- Yes _____
- No _____

9. If the answer is no or only partially write out a prayer of complete surrender.

Answer.

10. How can the believer make the prayer of surrender a conscious reality?

Answer.

Chapter 6 Difficulties Concerning Faith

*“Jesus said unto him, **If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.** And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.”*

Mark 9:23-24

1. Why do so many Christians struggle with the concept of faith?

Answer.

Definitions of Faith

- Faith is to believe what we do not see; and the reward of this faith is to see what we believe (Augustine).
- Faith is a voluntary anticipation (Clement of Alexandria).
- A man lives by believing something, not by debating and arguing about many things (Thomas Carlyle).
- God our Father has made all things depend on faith so that whoever has faith will have everything, and whoever does not have faith will have nothing (Martin Luther).
- Faith has to do with things that are not seen and hope with things that are not at hand (Thomas Aquinas).
- Faith is not merely your holding on to God—it is God holding on to you. He will not let you go! (E. Stanley Jones).
- Understanding is the reward of faith. Therefore seek not to understand that thou mayest believe, but believe that thou mayest understand (Augustine).

Leadership, IV, 4, p. 87.

The Simplicity of Faith

“If you have ever trusted a friend for an important matter, I beg you, trust yourself and all your spiritual interests in the hands of your heavenly Friend now, and never allow yourself to doubt again” (HWS).

1. Define faith.

Answer.

2. List five individuals who are believed or trusted in everyday life.

Answer.

Have Confidence in the Holy Spirit

3. What is to be said when a person says, “*I cannot believe God without the Holy Spirit*”?

Answer.

*“I will believe, I do believe,
That Jesus Christ died just for me,
And on the cross
He shed His blood,
From sin to set me free.”*

Cease to Worry

4. What two spiritual concepts are more incompatible than oil and water ?

Answer.

“You do not find it difficult to trust the management of the universe and all outward creations to the Lord. Can your own case be more complex and difficult than these, that you have to be anxious or troubled about His management of you?” (HWS).

Believe all God’s Promises

5. What must be put into the act of believing?

Answer.

6. What scriptural promises are designed to encourage and enhance faith?

Answer.

Chapter 7 Difficulties Concerning the Will

1. In what primary sphere of spiritual reality is the Christian life not to be lived though it often is?

Answer.

2. Define the “will.”

Answer.

“We are not constrained by servile necessity, but act with free will, whether we are disposed to virtue or inclined to vice: (St. Ambrose).

Choose to Believe

3. The will guides and determines the emotions. True or false?

Answer.

A Surrendered Will

4. What passage directs Christians to surrender themselves completely to God?

Answer.

5. What should a Christian do when they discover an emotion that loves a particular sin the will hates?

Answer.

6. How is the Christian to handle the feeling of unreality and hypocrisy?

Answer.

Because the *Word of God* judges not only the thoughts but also intents of the heart (Heb. 4:12) any motion to evil that is embraced and loved must be judged and not simply dismissed or ignored. *1 Cor 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.* No tyrant of a Pharaoh of Egypt ever ruled more ruthlessly than the Tyrant of Sin. No Pharaoh let his people go more reluctantly than Sin. The strength of sin’s passions are like the raging of the sea (*Stanford E. Murrell*).

Will What God Wills

7. Using a domestic analogy what is the relationship between the will and the emotions?

Answer.

The power of the emotions on the will must not be underestimated because the will responds to the strongest influence upon it. However, the emotions are not to be overrated either for they can be controlled by the power of God, the promises of the Word and the consecration of the heart to the Father. If authority is granted to the emotions to dominate the soul then evil deeds will be done. If authority is not granted to the emotions to rule over the will then higher principles will prevail (Stanford E. Murrell).

Psalm 143:8-10

“Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee. Deliver me, O LORD, from mine enemies: I flee unto thee to hide me. Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness.”

Chapter 8 Difficulties Concerning Guidance

1. What passages of *Scripture* set forth the promise that any Christian can know the will of the Lord provided the heart is fully surrendered to Him?

Answer.

God Knows All

2. Based on Luke 14:26-33 where might the will of God lead?

Answer.

3. List four ways divine guidance comes.

Answer.

Guidance from the Bible

4. Demonstrate in principle how the *Bible* addresses the many important issues in the life of the believer by noting what the *Scriptures* have to say regarding dress, conversations, vengeance, standing up for our rights, the matter of forgiving, being conformed to this world, and worry.

Answer.

“It is important to remember that the Bible is a book of principles. We must be careful not to isolate Bible verses which may, in fact go against Bible principles. Remember in the fourth chapter of Luke, Satan used isolated Bible verses to tempt Christ, while Christ resisted Satan by stating Bible principles” (HWS).

Impressions in Guidance

5. Name three sources of “*impressions*” that influence the mind of the Christian.

Answer.

6. How are impressions to be tested?

Answer.

“It is never a sign of a divine leading when the Christian insists on opening his own way, riding roughly over all opposing things. If the Lord “goes before” us, He will open the door for us. We will not need to batter down doors for ourselves” (HWS).

A Desire of the Heart

7. What has God promised to put into the heart of the believer to make doing His will desirable?

Answer.

Chapter 9 Difficulties Concerning Doubt

1. What are many Christians the persistent slaves of?

Answer.

“When we say, ‘Yes I doubt, but I do believe in God’s love more than I trust my own doubts,’ it becomes possible for God to act” (Anthony Bloom).

Doubting Displeases God

2. How can a person be helped of being a doubter?

Answer.

“Any thoughts that are different from what He Himself has said are wrong. They dishonor Him. It is always sinful to indulge in doubts [of unbelief] throughout your Christian life” (HWS).

Deliverance from Doubts

3. Where is the stronghold of sin?

Answer.

“Cultivate a continuous habit of believing and all doubts will vanish in the blaze of the glory of the absolute faithfulness of God” (HWS).

1 Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Chapter 10 Difficulties Concerning Temptations

1. What major mistakes are often made concerning temptation?

Answer.

Temptation is not Sin

2. Why is temptation not sin?

Answer.

“You cannot keep the blackbirds of temptation from flying around your head but you can keep them from landing.”

Martin Luther

Six Ways to Keep the Blackbirds of Temptation from Landing

- **Pray.** *Matt 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.*
- **Watch.** *Matt 26:41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*
- **Hide the Word in the heart.** *Ps 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*
- **Confess.** *1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

- **Grow.** *2 Peter 3:18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.*
- **Put on the whole armor of God.** *Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*

The Source of Temptation

3. Why can temptation not be sin?

Answer.

Sin, Satan, Self and the World

While Satan is certainly one major source of temptation the natural inclinations of a fallen heart is another source. Jesus said *“For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: 20 These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man” (Matt 15:19-20)*. James wrote, *“But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed” (James 1:14)*.

As the devil and the flesh provide a source for temptation so does the world which is why the Christian is commanded not to love the world. *1 John 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world (Stanford E. Murrell)*.

More than Conquerors

4. Is all time spent in combating temptation lost?

Answer.

5. What is to be the emotional attitude of the believer in the hour of testing or temptation?

Answer.

Joy is the emotion that is produced by one’s well being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires *“This is the secret of joy. We shall no longer strive for our own way; but commit ourselves, easily and simply, to God’s way, acquiesce in His will and in so doing find out peace” (Evelyn Underhill)*.

6. What is the way to victory over temptation?

Answer.

It is true the way to victory over temptation is faith. First, there must be faith that a way of escape has been provided so that sin need not scar the soul leaving shame and guilt. *1 Cor 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.*

Second, there must be faith the victory has already been won in Christ. *Col 2:15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*

Third, there must be faith that no matter what the out comes might be at any given moment the ultimate victory belongs to the Lord who will remain faithful. *Rom 8:30 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 (Stanford E. Murrell).*

*“I need Thee every hour,
most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine
can peace afford.*

*I need Thee, O I need Thee;
Every hour I need Thee;
O bless me now, my Savior,
I come to Thee.*

*I need Thee every hour,
stay Thou nearby;
Temptations lose their power
when Thou art nigh.*

*I need Thee every hour,
in joy or pain;
Come quickly and abide,
or life is in vain.*

*I need Thee every hour;
teach me Thy will;
And Thy rich promises in me fulfill.*

*I need Thee every hour,
Most Holy One;
O make me Thine indeed,
Thou blessèd Son.”*

Annie S. Hawks, 1872

Chapter 11 Difficulties Concerning Failures

1. Do teachers of the high life teach that it becomes impossible to sin?

Answer.

Select *New Testament* Passages on Sanctification

- *1 Corinthians 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:*
- *1 Thessalonians 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:*
- *1 Thessalonians 4:4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;*
- *2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:*
- *1 Peter 1:2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.*

2. What is to be said about sins of ignorance?

Answer.

Identifying Sin

3. What two extremes regarding sin must be avoided in living out the ethics of the Christian life?

Answer.

“We are not preaching a state but a walk. The highway of holiness is not a place but a way” (HWS).

4. Is there false humility in the Christian experience? How is it characterized? Can discouragement cause the heart to turn into water?

Answer.

Confess Sin Immediately

5. How quickly will the Lord forgive sin that is honestly confessed?

Answer.

6. What must the believer do once sin is confessed?

Answer.

Examples of Temptation

7. If a person is surprised they can treat someone badly after determining to be consecrated to God what might be a negative consequence?

Answer.

8. If a person has a burst of anger and is immediately sorry and confesses the wrong what might be a positive consequence?

Answer.

Causes of Failure

8. What are the ultimate causes of failure to walk in the deeper life?

Answer.

Crippling Sins of the Soul

- A conscious root of bitterness
- Self-seeking,
- Harsh judgments
- Slackness in obeying the voice of the Lord
- Doubtful habits
- Questionable surroundings
- A subtle leaning to our own understanding
- A general lack of trust in God
- Failure to listen to the gentle voice of the Spirit thereby quenching Him

Secret Corners of Sin

9. What lies at the root of most of the failure in the interior life?

Answer.

10. What is the solution to secret sin in the soul?

Answer.

Wicked, not Weak

If the cause for moral failure does not lie in the strength of the temptation, nor in personal weakness or in any lack in the power or willingness of our Savior to save us then another cause must be sought and found. The ultimate cause of moral failure lies in realizing the unredeemed will is not merely weak it is essentially wicked. Until there is this shocking confrontation with the nature of the will there can be no motive to change. The honest heart will confess with David and say “*Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*” The heart will go on to acknowledge, “*Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.*” Finally, the desperate heart will plead with God “*Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow*” (Ps 51:5-7) (Stanford E. Murrell).

Chapter 12 Is God in Everything?

1. Why is a distinction made between God as the Author of all and God as the Agent of all?

Answer.

Receiving all as From God

2. Cite twelve biblical passages which indicate all second causes are under the sovereign control of God and so must be received and submitted to as being from the Father.

Answer.

A Father’s Protection

3. What evidence is there to suggest Joseph understood the dark days of his life were from God.

Answer.

4. Does God speak to His church in visions?

Answer.

Joy in Trials

5. Why is it so important to see God in everything?

Answer.

Part III
Results

Chapter 13

Bondage or Freedom

1. What are the two types of Christian experience?

Answer.

2. Describe the mental and emotional state of the Christian who lives in bondage.

Answer.

3. Describe the mental and emotional state of the person who lives in freedom.

Answer.

4. What is a spiritual sin?

Answer.

5. In living out the ethics of the Christian life what error found its way into the church of Galatia?

Answer.

6. Illustrate the heart that is in the Spirit and the heart that is still in the flesh.

Answer.

7. What happens when the flesh does start to dictate behavior?

Answer.

Bondage in Legalism

8. Why is being right more important than doing right?

Answer.

“Doing is valuable only as it is an indication of being” (HWS).

9. What did Paul mean when he spoke of the Galatians being “*fallen from grace*”?

Answer.

10. What in the modern church parallels what took place in Galatia?

Answer.

5. Make a contrast between Law and Grace.

Answer.

- Law.
Grace.

- Law.
Grace.

- Law.
Grace.

- Law.
Grace.

- Law.
Grace.

- Law.
Grace.

- Law.
Grace.

- Law.
Grace.

- Law.
Grace.

- Law.
Grace.

Christ Sets us Free

6. Who is exalted in religious legal bondage?

Answer.

7. Who is exalted in a religion of liberty?

Answer.

Heirs of God

8. How do spiritual blessings come to the Christian?

Answer.

Spiritual Blessings

9. What are the spiritual blessings found in Christ in 1 Corinthians 1:30?

Answer.

Bondage or Freedom

10. Is the Christian's secret of a happy life a mystical thing that ordinary people cannot understand?

Answer.

"Our freedom must come, therefore, from an understanding of the mind and thoughts of God towards us" (HWS).

Acts 3:26

"Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities."

Chapter 14 Growth

1. What is a great objection made against those who promote the higher life teaching?

Answer.

Grow in Grace

2. What is a basic misunderstanding between those who insist on growing in grace and knowledge gradually and those who maintain it is possible to make a definite step into the "land of promise"?

Answer.

"In order to grow in grace it is first necessary to be planted in grace" (HWS).

3. What does “growing in grace” mean?

Answer.

Growth without Anxiety

4. What *Scriptures* support the idea that growth in grace is different from growth by self-effort or legality of every kind and is without anxiety?

Answer.

“Grow, by all means, dear Christians, but grow in grace, and then let the divine Husbandman cultivate you in His own way and by His own means. Put yourselves out in the sunshine of His presence and let the dew of heaven come down upon you” (HWS).

Abide in the Vine

5. How can the Christian be both passive and active in spiritual growth?

Answer.

*“More love to Thee,
O Christ, more love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make
on bended knee.
This is my earnest plea:
More love, O Christ, to Thee;*

*More love to Thee, more love to Thee!
Once earthly joy I craved,
sought peace and rest;
Now Thee alone I seek,
give what is best.*

*This all my prayer shall be:
More love, O Christ to Thee;
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!*

*Let sorrow do its work,
come grief or pain;
Sweet are Thy messengers,
sweet their refrain,
When they can sing with me:
More love, O Christ, to Thee;
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!*

*Then shall my latest breath
whisper Thy praise;
This be the parting cry
my heart shall raise;
This still its prayer shall be:
More love, O Christ to Thee;
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!”*

Elizabeth E. Prentiss, 1856

Contentment in Growth

6. What is growth the result of?

Answer.

Chapter 15 Service

1. How is much of Christian service viewed?

Answer.

Serving in Love

2. In the matter of joyful service what is God’s way of working in a person?

Answer.

Strength in Yielding

3. Who should decide where an individual is fit to be useful in Christian service?

Answer.

Responsibility and Results

4. When a life of trust and rest in the Lord is lived what two burdens are lifted from the believer?

Answer.

Rest in Service

5. In what way does the life of faith deliver the soul from the bondage of thoughts that follow Christian service?

Answer.

Chapter 16 Practical Results in the Daily Walks

1. What must happen if Christianity is to advance in the world?

Answer.

A Christlike Nature

2. Is the following statement true or false? For the most part, the followers of the Lord Jesus Christ are satisfied with a life so conformed to the world in almost every respect that, to a casual observer, no difference is discernable.

Answer.

Twenty five Holy Obligations

- Christians must come out from the world and be separate.
- Christians must not be conformed to the world in character or in conduct.
- Christians must set their affections, their emotions on heavenly things, not on earthly ones.
- Christians must walk through the world as Christ walked.
- Christians must have the same mind set that Christ had.
- Christians must abstain from fleshly lusts that war against the soul.
- Christians must disentangle themselves inwardly from the affairs of this life that Christ may be pleased to have good soldiers of the Cross.
- Christians must abstain from the appearance of evil.
- Christians must be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ sake, is forgiving.
- Christians must demonstrate they are not of the world even as Christ was not of the world.
- Christians must not resent injustices or unkindness but must return good for evil, and turn the other cheek to the hand that hits them.

- Christians must take the lowest place among others.
- Christians must not seek their own honor but the honor of others.
- Christians must not stand up for their own rights but the rights of others.
- Christians must do everything not for their own glory but for the glory of God.
- Christians must be holy. It is written, *Leviticus 11:45* “*be holy, for I am holy.*”
- Christians must be Christ-like everywhere and to all.
- Christians must prove they possess what they profess.
- Christians must be real followers of Christ and not followers only in theory.
- Christians must completely turn their backs on everything that is contrary to the perfect will of God.
- Christians must be a “*peculiar people*” (*Titus 2:14*), not only in the eyes of God but in the eyes of the world around us.
- Christians must demonstrate by their habits, their attitudes, their conversations and their pursuits they are followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Christians must demonstrate they are not of the world.
- Christians must not feel liberty to use personal energies exclusively in the pursuit of worldly means, but must honor the command of Matthew 6:33. *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*
- Christians must not look upon money as their own. They must look at it as belonging to the Lord to be used in His service.

Results of a Hidden Life

3. List twenty-one characteristics that flow from a life hid with Christ in God.

Answer.

Moment by Moment Obedience

4. In what manner does the Good Shepherd lead His sheep?

Answer.

5. Define consecration.

Answer.

Chapter 17 The Joy of Obedience

“Perfect obedience would be perfect happiness, if only we had perfect confidence in the power we were obeying” (Unknown).

Surrender without Limitation

1. What degree of intimacy is the Christian said to possess with Christ?

Answer.

2. There are many relationships in life that requires little devotion. Is Christianity one of them?

Answer.

“He did not spare Himself. How can you spare yourself?” (HWS).

Separated unto Him

3. Have you ever longed to lavish your love and attention on someone who is unapproachable or who is a stranger? Have you ever strongly wanted to be surrendered and devoted to someone?

Answer.

Yes ___

No ___

4. In the act of surrendering the will to the Lord, does the believer alone receive the joy?

Answer.

Let Him Have All

*“All to Jesus, I surrender;
All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.*

*I surrender all, I surrender all,
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.
All to Jesus I surrender;
Humbly at His feet I bow,
Worldly pleasures all forsaken;
Take me, Jesus, take me now.*

*All to Jesus, I surrender;
Make me, Savior, wholly Thine;
Let me feel the Holy Spirit,
Truly know that Thou art mine.*

*All to Jesus, I surrender;
Lord, I give myself to Thee;
Fill me with Thy love and power;
Let Thy blessing fall on me.*

*All to Jesus I surrender;
Now I feel the sacred flame.
O the joy of full salvation!
Glory, glory, to His Name!”*

Judson W. Van DeVenter, 1896

5. What is the highest state of blessedness?

Answer.

Chapter 18 Divine Union

1. What is the goal in all of God’s dealings with the soul?

Answer.

The Reality of the Christ-life

2. Define the concept of “soul-union.”

Answer.

3. Is this spiritual soul union only for the elite and most spiritually mature of believers?

Answer.

Living in Our Emotions

3. What care must be taken in order to avoid a false sense of security of being in Christ?

Answer.

4. What test did Jesus give as testimony He was one with the Father?

Answer.

5. According to *Scripture*, who is a liar?

Answer.

Awareness of Christ's Presence

7. Is it possible for Christ to be in or near the house and His presence not be recognized or received?

Answer.

A Voluntary Invitation

8. Why will the Lord not force His presence upon our lives?

Answer.

9. List the three steps to a voluntary relationship of love with the Lord.

Answer.

Chapter 19 The Chariots of God

1. What are the chariots of God sent to take the soul to its high place of triumph?

Answer.

2. What prayer needs to be prayed in order to see the chariots that surround us to carry us to victory?

Answer.

*“Open my eyes, that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free.*

*Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready my God, Thy will to see,
Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!
Open my ears, that I may hear
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
Everything false will disappear.*

*Open my mouth, and let me bear,
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share.”*

Clara H. Scott, 1895

God’s Chariots

3. What happens when the believer steps into the chariots of God?

Answer.

Earthly Chariots

4. Because the Christian tends to “*go down to Egypt*” for spiritual help, what must God do?

Answer.

Unseen Chariots

5. How can the Christian maintain confidence in the unseen chariots?

Answer.

“The baby carried in the chariot of its mother’s arms rides triumphantly through the most difficult places and does not even know they are difficult. And how much more we ride triumphantly who are carried in the chariot of the ‘arms of God!’” (HWS)

Chapter 20 **The Life on Wings**

1. What is the natural longing of the heart when confronted with miseries?

Answer.

A Way of Escape

2. What are the “wings” God has provided as a way of escape from the crushing burdens of life?

Answer.

Mount up with Wings

3. What does “overcome” mean?

Answer.

Made for Heavenly Heights

4. In the matter of Surrender and Trust is the Christian active or passive?

Answer.

Hindrances to Flying

5. What hindrance is there to flying and mounting up spiritual on wings of an eagle?

Answer.

Cut Loose from Earthly Ties

Though all the world be desolate, the prophet declared,

“Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.”

Habakkuk 3:18

Student's Supplemental Material

Doctrine of Sanctification

1. Sanctification is a supernatural work of God in the heart that produces holiness of life.
 - *1 Thessalonians 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*
2. Just as God must save the soul He is the One who must sanctify it.
 - *John 15:4-5 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

There is much talk today about having better self-esteem through self-help programs. Popular psychology and the New Age movement has much to say about behavior problems and how to be a better person—and yet society grows progressively worse. Only the Potter can change the vessel and make it new.

3. Sanctification is a continuous process. Regeneration is instantaneous while sanctification takes time. How much time depends upon the individual. It is possible to grow quickly in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior. It is possible to accelerate the inner cross work and enjoy a greater degree of holiness but it does take time.

Many years ago a student asked the president of Obelin Bible College whether he could not take a shorter course than the one prescribed. “*Oh yes,*” replied the president, “*but then it depends on what you want to make of yourself. When God wants to make an oak, he takes a hundred years, but when he wants to make a squash he takes six months.*”

4. God will sanctify His people. Christian, you who are struggling with secret chains of bondage, take heart.
 - *Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*
5. The process of sanctification requires the intelligent and voluntary activity of the believer in the discovery and mortification of sinful desires. While Jesus prayed in John 17:17 the Father would sanctify believers in the sphere of truth Paul pleaded with believers to be responsible by “*Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ*” (2 Cor 10:5).

- Philippians 2:12-13 unites the Divine activity and human responsibility. *“Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. 13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.”*
6. To be very practical a large part of holiness consists in the formation of simple spiritual habits.
- Scripture reading. *2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*
 - Scripture meditation. *Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*
 - Scripture memorization. *Psalms 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*
 - Secret prayer. *Matthew 26:41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*
 - Faithfulness to Church. *Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*
 - Soul winning efforts. *Luke 14:23 And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.*
 - Acts of charity. *James 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.*

In all of these activities there is a voluntary and intellectual assent.

7. In the process of sanctifying His people the Agent whom God uses is the Holy Spirit.
- *John 14:17-18 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. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.*

The sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit can be arrested by sins committed against Him.

- The Spirit can be grieved. *Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.*
- The Spirit can be quenched. *1 Thessalonians 5:19 Quench not the Spirit.*

- The Spirit can be resisted. *Acts 7:51 Ye stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.*
 - The Spirit can be lied to. *Acts 5:3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?*
 - The Spirit can be blasphemed. *Mark 3:29 But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:*
8. It is the will of the Lord the Spirit be not sinned against but released in the life.
- The Spirit is released when we confess our utter helplessness before the Lord and our failure to be good in His sight.
 - The Spirit is released by faith that Christ will indeed come to us as He has promised. The object of saving faith is Christ and the object of sanctifying faith is Christ. Sanctification does not begin with self but with the Saviour. *2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.*
Is this not true?

In the moment of potential temptation when the lusts of the flesh are strong and sin seems to come in like a flood there is the tendency to suppress the truth and violate the conscience.

A *Scripture* passage comes to mind or a spiritual thought of prohibition but all that is dismissed so that inappropriate behavior can take place. *“Sin makes a person become self-justifying” (John MacArthur).*

It is true. The antidote for such behavior is a fresh look at the Crucified One not only for salvation but also for sanctification. Keep the Cross before your heart.

*“Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His marvelous face.
And the things of this world will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.”*

Doctrine of Self-Sanctification

1. The practice of some form of self-sanctification is an established principle in the Word of God. In the *Old Testament* the people of God were reminded often to set themselves apart in a special way for service and sacrifice and worship.
2. The priests of God were to sanctify themselves before entering into His presence.
 - *Exodus 19:22 And let the priests also, which come near to the LORD, sanctify themselves, lest the LORD break forth upon them.*
3. The people of God were to sanctify themselves and be a holy people.
 - *Leviticus 11:44 For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.*
 - *Leviticus 20:7 Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God.*
4. When a new home was established it could be sanctified unto the Lord.
 - *Leviticus 27:14 And when a man shall sanctify his house to be holy unto the LORD, then the priest shall estimate it, whether it be good or bad: as the priest shall estimate it, so shall it stand.*
5. The Lord was pleased when man sanctified a portion of his possession.
 - *Leviticus 27:16 And if a man shall sanctify unto the LORD some part of a field of his possession, then thy estimation shall be according to the seed thereof: an homer of barley seed shall be valued at fifty shekels of silver.*
6. Prior to receiving a blessing of God the children of Israel sanctified themselves.
 - *Numbers 11:18 And say thou unto the people, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow, and ye shall eat flesh: for ye have wept in the ears of the LORD, saying, Who shall give us flesh to eat? For it was well with us in Egypt: therefore the LORD will give you flesh, and ye shall eat.*
7. When God's people sanctify themselves divine wonders can be performed.
 - *Joshua 3:5 And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you.*

8. Practical godliness involves self-sanctification and thus a measure of personal responsibility to root out inward corruption.
 - *Joshua 7:13 Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow: for thus saith the LORD God of Israel, There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel: thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you.*
9. The prophet Samuel called upon the family of Jesse to sanctify themselves even though they did not know they would receive a great blessing from the Lord. Personal holiness is its own virtue.
 - *1 Samuel 16:5 And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.*
10. No matter how menial the task for the Lord, divine service requires a sanctified people.
 - *1 Chronicles 15:12 And said unto them, Ye are the chief of the fathers of the Levites: sanctify yourselves, both ye and your brethren, that ye may bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel unto the place that I have prepared for it.*
11. Ministers of the gospel must lead the people of God in the matter of self-sanctification.
 - *2 Chronicles 29:5 And said unto them, Hear me, ye Levites, sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the house of the LORD God of your fathers, and carry forth the filthiness out of the holy place.*
 - *2 Chronicles 35:6 So kill the Passover, and sanctify yourselves, and prepare your brethren, that they may do according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.*
12. God's people should exhort each other to holiness.
 - *Nehemiah 13:22 And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the Sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.*
13. There are degrees of self-sanctification. Some individuals are more conscientious than others.
 - *2 Chronicles 29:34 But the priests were too few, so that they could not flay all the burnt offerings: wherefore their brethren the Levites did help them, till the work was ended, and until the other priests had sanctified themselves: for the Levites were more upright in heart to sanctify themselves than the priests.*

14. The mercies of God are designed to lead the people of God to self-sanctification.

- *Isaiah 29:23 But when he seeth his children, the work of mine hands, in the midst of him, they shall sanctify my name, and sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and shall fear the God of Israel.*

15. A feigned holiness will be judged.

- *Isaiah 66:17 They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the LORD.*

16. Ultimately God is the one who must save and sanctify His people. Nevertheless, the Lord uses means and gives grace so that a measure of self-sanctification can take place. There is human responsibility in the matter of holiness.

- *Joel 1:14 Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the LORD,*
- *Joel 2:15 Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:*
- *Joel 2:16 Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.*

17. Jesus has prayed for the sanctification of His people.

- *John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*

18. Because Christ has sanctified Himself, because Christ has prayed, Christians will be sanctified through the truth or through Bible doctrine in the soul.

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

19. One of the great purposes of redemption is for the Lord to have a sanctified people.

- *Ephesians 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,*

20. The apostle Paul prayed that God would sanctify or make the church holy.

- *1 Thessalonians 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

21. Holiness is not without a high price. Jesus had to suffer in order for the Church to be sanctified.
- *Hebrews 13:12 Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.*
22. The last word in the *New Testament* on this topic calls upon the Christian to recognize and accept personal responsibility for holiness through self-sanctification.
- *1 Peter 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:*
23. Unless the concept of self-sanctification is recognized there will be a passive phase in the Christian experience whereby sin in the soul is not radically dealt with. In fact, its very existence is justified.
- The heart will be tempted to say, *"I am just weak."*
 - The heart will be tempted to say, *"If God does not sanctify me I cannot help myself."*
 - The heart will be tempted to say, *"It is God's fault I am the way I am."*
 - The heart will be tempted to say, *"I cannot change, I cannot be different. I have tried."*
24. It is instructive to note that in the Bible God never says, *"Try to sanctify yourself."* The imperative is given time and again, *"Sanctify yourself."* What God commands He will give strength to perform for His glory and man's good.