Power of Sanctification Notes Pastor Wilson Wednesday, July 14, 14

Sanctification

What is sanctification? In short, it is separation; a setting aside. Not just separation FROM the world, but separation UNTO God. Sanctification is translated from the Greek word, "Hagiasmos," which means: consecration, purification, the effect of consecration; sanctification of the **heart and life**.

2 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.

God cares about the inside AND the outside

Staying saved

Following is some practical teaching for sanctifying ourselves; subduing our flesh; not giving place to the devil; and maintaining a conscience free from condemnation, so that we may more freely flow in the spirit.

Our brains can be our greatest asset, or it can be our worst adversary!

God gave us an imagination and brain storage capacity so that we could imagine greater things in Him. So that we can envision heaven though we've never been there; so that we can expect the impossible; see the invisible; believe the incredible and feel the intangible! But on a daily basis, we are bombarded with ungodly images and devilish imaginations. Some of which are imposed upon us without our permission, but much of which is invited into our spirit and onto the storage disk of our brain WITH OUR CONSENT!

You must choose on a daily basis whether your powerful brain is going to be your friend or your enemy. Will we feed our brains with things that edify and build up? Will we fill our spirit with the Word and worship music, which leads to life and peace, and closeness with God? Or, will we feed on the junk and pollution that is out there, and allow filth and vileness to be imprinted upon the hard disk of our brains? Are we taking into our spirit through our eyes and ears, the ungodliness that leads to guilt and self-condemnation and a weak spirituality?

We will NEVER be able to see and hear all that our flesh wants us to see and hear. So we might as well stop trying!

Proverbs 27:20 says, "Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied."

We must begin to sanctify our brains on a daily basis. We must not only separate it from the world; but separate it UNTO God. If we choose to make our brains our friend, God will help us.

Isaiah 26:3 says

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose *mind* is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Our peace is disturbed when we watch something or listen to something that is ungodly

Scriptural Tools

Some practical scriptural tools to separate your mind from the world; and sanctify your brain unto God:

One practical thing we can do is pledge to God that with his help we will seriously "watch what we watch"!

Job 31:1

I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?

And...

Ps 101:3

I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.

Again, this is a covenant or a vow. Another practical tool we can use to maintain our mental purity. Pray: "God, keep me when I can't keep myself. Let this proclamation of David take root in MY heart. Help ME to protect my eyes. In Jesus' name."

Rom 12:1-2

I beseech you brethren by the mercies of God that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God; which is your reasonable service. And be ye not conformed unto this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds.

Another practical tool is to drag our carcass up on the altar on a daily basis. In our daily prayer and devotion time we should present ourselves to God. Pray: "Father in heaven, today I submit my body to you as a living sacrifice; holy and acceptable in your eyes."

Philippians 4:8

Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true; whatsoever things are honest; whatsoever things are just; whatsoever things are pure; whatsoever things are lovely; whatsoever things are of a good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Combat evil with good. When your mind is drawn away towards unhealthy things; bring it back under the subjection of Christ. Think about God's goodness and mercy; think about his love and kindness; think about his protection and provision, and let God begin to crowd the unhealthy thoughts out and replace them with his love and light.

Closing thought

Here is a precious gem my first pastor, pastor Switzer:

"You can't keep the bird from flying over your head, but you can stop him from building a nest there."

We must ask ourselves: are we shooing the bird away tonight? Or, are we providing him the straw and nesting materials to build a nest?