

Sermon Notes

Exodus – The Revealing of God’s Glory and His Design for the Chosen

“Introduction: The Difference Between Justification and Sanctification” – Exodus 20

I. Review.

- A. The Law: 1. Moral, 2. Ceremonial, 3. Civil
- B. The Gospel
 - 1. A righteousness apart from the Law. Romans 3:19-21.

II. Introduction

- A. Confusion over terms.
 - 1. Prevalent within our culture
- B. Clear definitions are needed.
 - 1. Especially true in theology.
 - 2. Today we focus upon justification and sanctification.

III. What is justification?

- A. Westminster Shorter Catechism – Question #33:
 - Q: What is Justification?
 - A: Justification is an act of God’s free grace wherein he pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in His sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.”
 - Supporting Texts: Eph. 1:7; II Cor. 5:21; Rom. 4:21; Gal. 2:16
- B. What do the Ten Commandments have to do with justification?
 - 1. They show our need of righteousness to stand before God. In this sense they are a schoolmaster. – Gal. 3:24.
 - 2. The Law reveals the character of God.
 - a. This is what God is like – perfect and holy. Psalm 19:7.
 - 1. To find fault with the Law is to find fault with the Lawgiver.

IV. What is Sanctification?

- A. Westminster Confession – Chapter 13:
 - 1. Those who are effectually called and regenerated have a new heart and a new spirit created in them. They are additionally sanctified, actually and personally, by the power of Christ’s death and resurrection and by His word and spirit dwelling in them. The power of sin ruling over

the whole body is destroyed, and the desires of the old self are more and more weakened and killed. At the same time the ability to practice true holiness, without which no one will see the Lord, is brought to life and strengthened by all the saving graces.

- 2. This sanctification works in the whole person, but not completely or perfectly in this life. The old sinful nature retains some of its control in body, mind, and spirit. And so a continual and irreconcilable war goes on in every believer. The old nature tries to get its way in opposition to the Spirit, and the Spirit fights to assert its authority over the flesh.
- 3. Although the old nature temporarily wins battles in this warfare, the continual strengthening of the sanctifying Spirit of Christ enables the regenerate nature in each believer to overcome. And so the saints grow in grace, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”
 - a. Texts: Eph. 4:24, Rom. 6:12,13, 8:1; II Thes. 2:13

- B. What do the Ten Commandments have to do with sanctification?
 - 1. Didn’t Christ fulfill the Law so that now the Christian is under grace?
 - 2. What did Jesus say? Matthew 5:17-20
 - 3. The Moral Law is not a means toward justification for the Christian, but it is a rule of life to live in love to the Savior.
 - a. Thomas Watson; J. C. Ryle

V. What is a Christian?

- A. Someone who loves God. (Basic definition)
 - 1. The more you know about him, the more you know why and how to love Him.
- B. Our chief desire - to be holy, even as He is holy. I Peter 1:15-16
 - 1. Robert Murray Mc’Cheyne

VI. Conclusion of introduction -

- A. Four choice spokesman:
 - 1. David: Ps. 119:35,53,97,113,126
 - 2. Paul: Romans 3:31,7:12,22, Galatians 3:24
 - 3. John: I John 2:4
 - 4. Jesus: Matthew 5:17-18