

**Outline of  
the Messages for the Full-time Training  
in the Spring Term of 2026**

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**GENERAL SUBJECT:  
THE CRUCIAL POINTS OF THE TRUTH IN PAUL'S EPISTLES—  
FIRST AND SECOND THESSALONIANS**

Message Nine

**Salvation in Sanctification of the Spirit**

Scripture Reading: 1 Thes. 4:3-5; 5:23; 2 Thes. 2:13

- I. We all need to have a deep impression concerning the expression *salvation in sanctification*—1 Thes. 4:3-5; 5:23; 2 Thes. 2:13:**
- A. This is one of the strongest expressions in the entire New Testament.
  - B. Since Paul uses this term, we need a revelation and realization of the truth embodied in it.
- II. There are crucial verses that speak of sanctification:**
- A. “It was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of One, for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brothers”—Heb. 2:10-11.
  - B. “Chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father in the sanctification of the Spirit unto the obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ”—1 Pet. 1:2.
  - C. “Now present your members as slaves to righteousness unto sanctification”—Rom. 6:19b.
  - D. “You have your fruit unto sanctification, and the end, eternal life”—v. 22b.
  - E. “Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth”—John 17:17.
- III. There is only one sanctification, but there are three aspects; we need to see the three aspects of sanctification in the Scriptures:**
- A. First, there is the Spirit’s sanctification in seeking the God-chosen people before their repentance—1 Pet. 1:2.
  - B. Second, there is the sanctification by the blood of Christ at the time of the believers’ believing—Heb. 13:12; 9:13-14; 10:29.
  - C. Third, there is the Spirit’s dispositional sanctification in the believers’ full course of their Christian life—Rom. 15:16b; 6:19, 22.
- IV. From the time we were called, the sanctifying Spirit started to work for God’s “sonizing,” for God’s sonship—8:15, 23; Gal. 4:5; Eph. 1:5:**
- A. Sanctification is something that goes on and on continually to sonize God’s chosen people.
  - B. The word *sonize* was invented by us to describe the process of God’s sanctifying work to make us His sons in a full way.
  - C. Sanctification is God’s sonizing:
    - 1. When we are sanctified, we are sonized.
    - 2. This is based upon Ephesians 1:4-5 and Hebrews 2:10-11.
  - D. Sonship is greatly dependent upon sanctification.
  - E. God brings His many sons into glory by Christ’s sanctifying us dispositionally, beginning from our regeneration throughout the full course of our Christian life—Rev. 1:6; 4:11:

1. Sanctification is still going on because we have not yet entered into glory in full.
2. One day we will be fully in glory; that fullness of entering into glory will be the fullness of God's sanctification—Rom. 6:19, 22; Heb. 12:14; 1 Pet. 1:2.

**V. The final aspect of sanctification is the Spirit's dispositional sanctification—1 Cor. 1:30; 1 Thes. 4:3-4, 7; 2 Thes. 2:13:**

- A. Our being sanctified through the blood of Christ was a positional matter:
  1. The blood of Christ changed our position to sanctify us.
  2. That is the positional aspect of God's sanctification.
- B. Our being made a new creation continues from regeneration throughout our entire Christian life by the Spirit's dispositional sanctification—2 Cor. 5:17; Rev. 3:14; 1 Pet. 1:3, 23.
- C. Dispositional sanctification is a continuation of the ongoing work of the believers' regeneration—Titus 3:5:
  1. Our birth is our regeneration, and our growing is our dispositional sanctification.
  2. God is now sanctifying what He has begotten.
  3. The Spirit continues to renew us by sanctifying us for our growth in life.
  4. The Spirit does not just correct us, but He constitutes us:
    - a. The Spirit first outwardly corrects us and then inwardly supplies us with the divine element, infusing us with the riches of Christ and constituting us with Christ's riches as the constituents.
    - b. The real sanctification is correcting plus constituting.
    - c. The Spirit sanctifies us not just by correcting us but by supplying us with His constituents, with His riches, with His divine element.
- D. The Spirit sanctifies us dispositionally to carry out the renewing of the believers as God's new creation—v. 5; Rom. 12:2b; 2 Cor. 4:16:
  1. To renew requires the addition of a new element.
  2. *Renewing* is a synonym for *sanctification*.
- E. The dispositional sanctification of the Spirit is to perform the Lord's transformation of the believers—3:18; Rom. 12:2:
  1. Renewing is a continuation of regeneration, and transformation is an issue of renewing.
  2. This shows us that transformation is also related to sanctification:
    - a. The dispositional sanctification of the Spirit is carried out by renewing, resulting in transformation.
    - b. Both renewing and transformation are part of the process of sanctification.
- F. The Spirit's dispositional sanctification consummates in the believers' glorification:
  1. In 1 Thessalonians 5:23 Paul expresses the desire for our whole being to be sanctified, that is, to be brought into glory.
  2. How much we are in glory depends upon how much we have been sanctified:
    - a. We are on the way of being brought into glory by the sanctifying work of the Spirit.
    - b. The more we are sanctified, the more we enter into glory.
    - c. Our being fully sanctified, not only in our spirit but also in our soul and even in our body, means that our whole being has been reconstituted with the divine element.
    - d. Our spirit, soul, and body will be reconstituted, sanctified wholly, and that will be our glorification.
  3. Sanctification is the gradual process of glorification:
    - a. The more we are sanctified, the more we will be made holy and the more we will feel that we are in glory.
    - b. Sanctification consummates in the believers' glorification.

- G. The Spirit's dispositional sanctification is to complete God's sonship in choosing the believers; Ephesians 1:4-5 proves this:
1. Sanctifying is "sonizing."
  2. Sanctification is for God's making of sons.
  3. Sanctification issues in sonship, results in sonship.
  4. The sanctification that we enjoy is not only a change of our position but also a constitution of our disposition to "sonize" our entire being.

**VI. In 2 Thessalonians the most crucial verse is 2:13: "God chose you from the beginning unto salvation in sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth":**

- A. God's salvation includes not only salvation from eternal perdition but God's full and complete salvation—1 Pet. 1:5:
1. In eternal salvation all the effects, benefits, and issues are of an eternal nature, transcending the conditions and limitations of time—Heb. 5:9.
  2. The full salvation of God is in three stages: the initial stage—the stage of regeneration; the progressing stage—the stage of transformation; and the completing stage—the stage of glorification—1 Cor. 6:11; Rom. 5:10; Phil. 3:21.
  3. God's salvation includes the salvation from many things in our daily life and the salvation of our soul, which will save us from dispensational punishment—1:19, 28; 2:12; Luke 21:36; Rev. 3:10; 1 Thes. 5:9; 1 Pet. 1:9.
- B. God's salvation is in sanctification of the Spirit—2 Thes. 2:13:
1. If we would enjoy and participate in God's complete salvation, we must be in the sanctification of the Spirit.
  2. The Spirit dwells in us to sanctify us, to separate us, entirely for God's purpose—1 Thes. 1:6; 4:8; Heb. 12:14.
  3. God has placed us into the process of sanctification, which is a matter of transformation—1 Thes. 5:23; Rom. 12:2; 2 Cor. 3:18.
  4. "His Holy Spirit" is for making us holy, for making us God in life and nature but not in the Godhead—1 Thes. 4:8; Eph. 1:4.
  5. God makes us holy by imparting Himself, the Holy One, into us so that our whole being may be saturated and permeated with His holy nature—1 Pet. 1:15-16.
- C. Salvation in sanctification is also in belief of the truth, that is, in the word as the truth; this corresponds to the Lord's word in John 17:17—cf. 2 Thes. 2:13; Col. 1:5:
1. The more we see the truth, the reality, revealed in the New Testament, the more we will experience sanctification—1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Tim. 2:15, 25.
  2. To be sanctified in belief of the truth is subjective; this means that God's salvation in sanctification is carried out in our subjective realization of the truth—John 17:17, 19.
- D. God has called us in sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth through the gospel "unto the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thes. 2:14); salvation in sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth is the procedure, and the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ is the goal (Heb. 2:10).