

CHRIST OUR SANCTIFICATION AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

Hebrews 10: 9: Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. 10: By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*...12: But this man, after he had made one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God...14: For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. 15: *Whereof* the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, 16: This *is* the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; 17: And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

When a sinner is sanctified/holy—set apart, cleansed pure and consecrated to God—it is by the sinner being made to behold that Christ is both his righteousness, as well as his sanctification. In fact, Christ sanctified his people to God, consecrating us perfectly, as he put away the sins of his people and accomplished our justification.

First, God's elect are sanctified by Christ doing the will of God on our behalf. By Christ fulfilling the old covenant law, he took away that first covenant and established the second, everlasting covenant of grace for his people. It was by making one sacrifice for sins forever in order to make his people righteous that Christ also, by that one offering, sanctified us, perfecting forever them that are sanctified. Christ consecrated us in holiness by his obedience unto the death of the cross as he made us righteous thereby.

Secondly, sanctification within is by the Holy Ghost bearing witness of Christ and his finished work of sanctification and justification for us. Be sure to get this. The Holy Ghost bears witness to us that Christ sanctified his people and made us righteous “for”, or because, this is how God fulfills his promise of making his covenant with his people. It is by the Holy Ghost bearing witness to us of Christ accomplishing our sanctification and justification that God writes his laws in our hearts and in our minds. In the context, those laws are the law of sanctification by Christ, the law of righteousness by Christ and the law of faith in Christ. Having written these laws on our hearts, we are brought to believe on Christ for holiness and righteousness. Therefore, the Holy Ghost bears witness that God remembers our sins and iniquities no more. It is only when the Holy Ghost bears witness in our hearts and minds that Christ is our righteousness and our sanctification that the Spirit bears witness that we have remission of sins and therefore there is no more offering for sin. Only when we are sanctified do we repent from the vain works of attempting to sanctify and justify ourselves by our works by the law.

Now, we can approach holy God. Verse 19 says that by the Holy Ghost writing this good news on our hearts and minds, we “*having, therefore, boldness to enter into the HOLIEST.*” It is by the blood of Christ, by a new and living way, which he hath CONSECRATED FOR US, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and by having Christ as our High Priest. Also, it is by the Holy Ghost bearing witness within that Christ sanctified us as he justified us, that our hearts are made true, that we are sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. This is the fulfillment of what the priests pictured as they ceremonially sanctified themselves by washing in the brass laver before entering the holy place. It simply means we have been made holy/sanctified in heart and body. It is by the work of God, not by our works.