

Summary of Scripture Words.

Sanctification, Sanctify

We find that the noun and verb are derived from Latin words "sanctus" , meaning "Holy" and "facere" meaning "to make;". However, the basic meaning has become as "set apart" or "brightness," the former is associated with the religious "holiness", "sanctification", "set apart," "for exclusive" use or "consecrated." In the New Testament it is the thought of an inward transformation which is gradually taking place, this will eventually result in purity, your moral, correct behaviour, holiness and spiritual thoughts, together give an outward life of goodness.

In the Old Testament the words are normally associated with God or Angelic beings, however, they still have the same meaning of "set apart for God," this term is usually used for objects to be used in the worship of God, while in the New Testament it is also used for a person, the person is "sanctified" or set apart for the use of God. Believers of course have been eternally set apart for God by their Redemption, through the offering of the body of Christ, a once for all,

[Hebrews 10:10,](#)

"10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

Therefore, true believers are "saints " and "holy" from the moment of believing,

[Philippians 1:5,6.](#)

"5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;

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."

The Holy Spirit is sanctifying them each day for each Believer,
John 17:13-17

"13 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."

Any object or person who has been "sanctified", is set apart for the use or work for God. Even God sanctified Himself , he recognized His perfect holiness, He will be glorified, this will be recognized by the people sanctifying Him.

Any thing which has been sanctified is recognized as being "set apart for the use by God", the Sabbath is one,

Genesis 2:3

"3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made."

These were primarily external in the Old Testament, they were often accompanied by the deeper meaning words from God, "Be ye holy, for I am holy"

In the New Testament

We find the word sanctification used five times and a further where it was translated as "holiness." We find, like in the Old Testament, the verb "sanctify" being used only for ceremonial or ritual use, for example Jesus used it in [Matthew 23:17-19.](#)

"17 Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold? 18 And, Whosoever shall swear by the altar, it is nothing; but whosoever sweareth by the gift that is upon it, he is guilty. 19 Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift?"

Here we find that the gold and gift were set apart and so reckoned sacred by their presence in the holy Temple and altar.

Jesus Christ also sanctified himself for the sacrificial work,

[John 17:18-20](#)

"18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;"

God the Father is sanctifying the Believers through the word of truth.

[John 17:17](#)

"17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."

Jesus Christ, by His sacrifice sanctifies the Believers, setting them apart and preparing them for the worship and service of God. God has done this by making a propitiation for their sins, "to make amends for sin, to appease by sacrifice."

[Hebrews 2:16,17](#)

"16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.

17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people."

[Hebrews 9:11-14](#)

"11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; 12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:

14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

This action is a complete and accomplished fact, by the one offering,

[Hebrews 10:10-14](#)

"10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."

Does the action of sanctification by faith allow the person to instantly be made holy, some feel that this is the case but I am sure that you know many Christians where this has not happened, it explains all the teaching in the New Testament by Paul, it is a long term process of sanctifying a Believer to become Christ like,

[Matthew 5:46-48.](#)

"46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

The point is that we will struggle with sin as we live our life, God will sanctify us as we get nearer the time to enter into heaven, for we know that we will be like Him.

[1 John 3:1-3](#)

"1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know

*that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.
3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."*