

Preparing the Overcomers: Our Sanctification and Consecration

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Matthew 10:7 The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Last Month: Looked at what it means to be clothed in the robe of humility and the garment of meekness, and how both greatly affect our relationship with the Lord, and will determine to what degree we will fulfill our destiny. That developing a lifestyle of prayer is a key to helping us to be humble and meek. That there is nothing pleasant about learning to be humble and meek, but the opposite! How meekness, affects our relationships, good or bad. Important we can be transparent and communicate with one another, without offense, restoring us to intimate fellowship with each other. We looked at what it means to have God's favor come upon your life – Abel, Noah, Lot, Joseph, Mary all had favor = persecution, hardship. We saw in John 2 Yeshua's 1st miracle, how it was on the 3rd day, at a wedding feast and transfiguration took place – turned the water into wine, using empty vessels that were set apart for purification – to be used for His glory – saved the best wine for last! How we are the 11- hour laborers, but requires us to become like those stone water pots: set apart, pure, no compromise, empty of self – living the crucified life, so He can fill us to the brim with the 7 Spirits of the Lord. How it will be those vessels, He will entrust to rule over the nations, during the Millennium Reign, because they have clothed themselves in the nature of the Lamb, in word, thought and deed – utterly humble and meek before God and before man. True Kingdom Authority walks clothed in humility and meekness, it's not about self, but about His will being done, and the needs of others above their own. If we're to be ready for our Wedding Day – to be the Bride/Overcomers, need to learn how to put on the garment of humility and meekness – to purchase this garment whatever the cost. It is a key to prepare us for the dark days ahead. **Audio on website/YouTube channel.**

Before we go into today's message, I want to take a look at the life of Elijah.

1 Kings 16, 17, 18, 19: Ahab – more evil than any king prior, marries Jezebel who was a Phoenician/Canaanite. Ahab built altars to Baal and Asherah, provoking the Lord to anger more than any other king (1 Kings 16:30-33). Why? He caused the people to go after false gods. The Canaanites were sun worshippers (Chaldeans/Nimrod). Worshipped for fertility, rooted in sensuality and temple prostitution. Priests offered homo acts along with human sacrifice to those gods, involved in witchcraft, sorcery, fortune telling. **This was NOT a good MIXED marriage – it was lethal!** Jezebel killed the prophets of the Lord, and her 850 false prophets, who ate at her table, arose in their place. **Elijah confronts Ahab and the Israelites: How long will you waver between two opinions** (1 Kings 18:21). Slays the false prophets, great victory, but then runs for his life in fear from Jezebel! Goes from Mt Carmel, place of victory to wanting to give up and die! Angel came to him twice, arise and eat and that food carried him 40 days to Mt Horeb: to a place of brokenness, desolation, where he could finally hear the voice of the Lord. Not in the wind, earthquake or fire to hear he was not alone, the Lord had 7,000 others!

We see here that Elijah confronted a serious issue with God's people: How long would they waver between two opinions?

Today, I want to share on our sanctification and consecration. I used to think the two were interchangeable.

But, before I do, we need to understand our salvation is not complete at our new birth – being saved is just the beginning!

READ 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 ...because God from the beginning **chose you for salvation** through **sanctification by the Spirit** and **belief in the truth**, **14** ...for the **obtaining of the glory**.

Three Stages to Full Salvation:

- 1. Justification** = by faith we are saved, most Christians never get further than this stage (Romans 3:24, 28, 5:1, 9).
- 2. Sanctification** = our soul/mind being renewed/transformed by trials, surrender will (Eph. 4:23, Romans 12:2, 1 Pet. 2:2).
- 3. Glorification** = union, God's plan for all – but impossible to get to this stage without going through stage 2.

Let's look at Stage 2 – Sanctification, a little closer

What does sanctification mean – to be sanctified? Hopefully by the time we are done, this will be clearer to us.

DEFINE SANCTIFICATION: To be **separated from sin** and is a work the Holy Spirit does in us.

DEFINE CONSECRATION: To be **separated unto** the Lord – the lifestyle choices we make to be holy.

1 Peter 1:15-16 But as the One Who called you is holy, **you yourselves** also **be holy** in **all** your conduct and manner of living. For it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

Both have meaning to be separated, and the two go hand-in-hand, impossible to have one without the other. Will always start with us, our free will to choose. To the degree you are willing to consecrate your life, will be to the degree you can be filled with the glory – we decide by our life style choices.

Consecration is the decision to surrender our will for God's will, by making lifestyle choices that align with the Word of God. Ex: repenting over our sin, but not always sin. We initiate the process, because He will never go against our free will.

When we do, an imparting of the Spirit of the Living God goes into that area of our soul that we have surrendered, and sanctifies it – purifying it, causing our soul to be transformed in that area to become more like Him. **TAKES TIME!**

So, our **consecration**, our choosing to surrender, **makes sanctification possible**. **SHARE:** Fast/TV, Easter egg/candy.

Both, sanctification and consecration should be happening in a believer's life, and daily!

In simplest meaning, one is a **separation from sin/world** and the other is a **separation to Him**. In our walk, we should be constantly moving more towards holiness, and further away from sin/world, to the end result of our faith (1 Peter 1:9).

2 Timothy 2:20-21 whoever cleanses himself, will be a vessel set apart consecrated, noble use, profitable to the Master.

2 Corinthians 6:16-17, 7:1 What does the temple of God have to do with idols, come out and be separate from the unclean.

John 17:17 Sanctify (purify) them by Your **truth**. Your **Word** is **truth**.

We can see truth is a key to being sanctified. If we love Him – if we love “Truth/Word.” The Word sanctifies us...sanctify (purify) her by the washing of the water of the word (Ephesians 5:26). **If we love Him (truth), we will obey Him (truth).**

We can further see in, 1 Peter 1:22, that obedience is a key to us being sanctified.

By **your obedience** to the **Truth**, **by the Holy Spirit**, you have **purified** your hearts (1 Peter 1:22).

So, our obedience to Truth is what allows the HS to purify our souls. This scripture reveals how our consecration, separating ourselves unto Him, brings sanctification to our souls – it is a roadmap for us to follow (1 Peter 1:22).

So, He has His role: Yeshua, through the Holy Spirit sanctifies us, we are not able!

And, we have ours: To surrender our will, love and obey Truth, meditate/behold the Word, lifestyle of prayer (2 Cor. 3:18).

What is the goal: To receive the end result of our faith, the salvation of our soul, conformed to Christ – to be the Bride.

Remember, our soul is not automatically saved at our new birth, and that is what needs renewed, a process (James 1:21).

Again, not automatic to attend the wedding feast, to be the Bride. Getting out of hell is free, to be the Bride will cost you everything. The Lord is looking to qualify us to be the Bride, we will be the ones that disqualify us by our choices.

We decide how holy (set apart) we become by the choices we make, whether to live a consecrated life unto the Lord, or unto this world: Movies, computer games, sexual sin, lying, gossiping. **What we behold we become** (Rom 8:5, 2 Cor. 3:18).

Philippians 4:8 Whatsoever things are **true**, are **honest**, are **just**, are **pure**, are **lovely**, whatsoever things are of **good report**; if there be **any virtue**, and if there be **any praise**, **think on these things**.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 says, ...the **God of peace** will **sanctify you W-H-O-L-L-Y**, and I pray God **your whole spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (KJV).

Means He will make us complete, **oneness will come into our lives – spirit, soul and body**. The double mindedness, where we are in the Spirit one day, and in our flesh or soul the next day, our instability will start to go away (Rom. 8:6-8).

Or, we could say, when we make the choices to be “holy” separated to Him, He makes us whole!

It requires our response everyday. It has to be intentional, if we want to possess our full inheritance (Philippians 3:14-16).

CLOSING:

1. This is a key in our walk, understanding this process and what is happening, in order for us to respond correctly, if we are to grow and mature in the deeper things of God. If not, we will stay a baby believer, Stage 1 (**1 Corinthians 3:1**).

2. Consecration: Our role, our choices that we make to separate to Him = surrendering our will for His will, never force us.

3. Sanctification: The HS role to purify those areas in our soul that are in darkness, with light. Only He can do this work.

4. If we are to receive the end result of our faith, the salvation of our soul, we need to live a 100% consecrated life unto the Lord - 100% sold-out. I die daily, intentional consecration in order to move past Stage 1 of salvation (1 Cor. 15:31).

5. Not by power, not by might but by My Spirit says the Lord. It is all by grace, not works, He is able... (Jude 1:24).

So, if we yield, then God can sanctify us – wholly! When we go through tests, sufferings His way, we're being separated from ourselves unto Him – our soul/mind is getting renewed, conforming us to Christ (Gal 4:19). The main reason God allows suffering, is to expose our sin/flaws that are harming us – bad attitudes, wrong choices we make, so the Sanctifier can purify those areas with Truth, and we can be transformed to more like Him.

But He can't do it if we won't let Him to do it His way. And, there is only one way – deny yourself, take up your cross and follow the Lamb. It is why we see so little transformation in the BOC, as most are not willing to die to self, we love our flesh

too much. Then we have all the hyper grace messages that say we don't have to die, that are only destroying His church. So, if we are not willing to die, we will stay stuck in our misery and see very little will change in our lives – lifetime of addictions, anger, jealousy, sexual sin, things we hate and are ashamed of, but never seem to be able to overcome and believe the lie that it must be normal. If that is you, be encouraged today, and allow the sanctification process to work in your life, by repenting of whatever your issue is, and then make the choice to resist it, (deny yourself, crucify your flesh), as often as needed – don't let Satan hold you captive in your mind, telling you what a failure you are when you slip, or that you will never change, so why bother. It normally does not happen overnight, but one choice at a time!

When we do our part, the Holy Spirit and the God of peace will sanctify us wholly, not h-o-l-y. He starts bringing oneness to our spirit, mind and body. There's a "rest" that we come into, when we understand and yield to this process. It can be painful, humiliating, lonely, confusing. To those around us, our life may look like a "mess, or they think we're nuts," because they judge us by the world's standards, and not by what the Word teaches, and what God expects of us. When we yield, we have a peace that surpasses all understanding because we will know we are in the perfect will of God, even when painful. **We will know He is after something in us – to qualify us to be His Bride** (Rom. 12:1-3, Rev. 19:7-9).

And, it's not always sin. Painful things happen because He knows what it is going to take to get us to become like Him in word, thought and deed to fulfill the call on our life. But the process is the same, and it is all about OVERCOMING!

Suffering transforms us to be filled with the glory. Heb 2:10 to make the Captain of their salvation perfect through suffering.

This is the process of sanctification. To the degree we decrease (consecrate) He can increase (sanctify, purify).

Why important to know this process? We do not have much time left before the Lord returns, and the church is not ready. Main reason, because we're no different than when Elijah confronted Ahab and Jezebel. Elijah was a no nonsense prophet – he confronted sin boldly. When he came on the scene there was much darkness in Israel: Idol worship, false prophets, false religions, astrology worship and temple prostitution. **Is the church any different today?** We have lots of idols, love of mammon, love of this world (1 John 2:15). **We're full of mixture and compromise – full of temple prostitution** – we see homosexuality allowed in the pulpit. Every time we go to church we bring all our idols. We have lost the fear of the Lord, and have embraced the fear of man, no longer boldly confronting sin. King Ahab was very corrupt, and Jezebel was more corrupt. She killed the prophets, replacing them with her false prophets who ate at her table of idolatry. She is a false prophetess who is seducing God's people to go astray with false teachings. (Rev. 2:20). The spirit of Jezebel rules in most churches today. The spirit of Jezebel will kill the true prophets, will kill a true prophetic church, will seduce a prophetic pastor: Leaders beware – not always a woman! **False prophets are on the rise with doctrines of demons infiltrating the church. But good news!** The Bride/Overcomers will arise in these last days and finish off what Elijah failed to do destroying Jezebel once and for all. But she will not go without a fight – she hates being confronted! **The Bride will be a Warrior Bride** with hands trained for war! **Did not Yeshua say, "I have not come to bring peace, but with a Sword"** (Matt. 10:34). The Sword is truth being restored. This Sword will separate the wheat from the tares, the sheep from the goats, it will be the purification of the church that Daniel 12:10 speaks of during the great tribulation. This is the hour we are in – this is a work for the end-time army of God to complete.

Too many saints have fallen into the destructive grips of "Jezebel." It's time for the Bride of Christ to arise, and not only destroy her works, but set the captives free from her bondage of sexual immorality/idol worship, **but we first have to get free and deal with those areas in our lives.** Why we need to understand consecration/sanctification.

In the days to come, the storms are going to be coming fast and furious – we need to abide in Him. We need to keep our eyes on the Lord Jesus, remembering that becoming love is the goal, conformed to Christ, by dying to self, embrace our trials/afflictions, learn everything the Master Builder is trying to teach and form in us while we have time. Other wise we will be like the foolish ones who built their house on sand to our utter destruction (2 Timothy 2:8, Gal 4:19, Matt. 7:26-27).

SHARE WORDS: Storm Clouds, October 12, 2014 Yom Kippur I AM That I AM, October 4, 2014.

When the hurricanes are blowing, the earthquakes are shaking and fires are breaking out all around, if we do not learn to hear the voice of the Lord, like Elijah, in that place of consecration/brokenness, we will look at the storm clouds around, and not hear what the Lord speaking, in the still quiet place – we will miss Him.

If we are to be ready for our Wedding Day – to be the Bride/Overcomers, we need to stop wavering between two opinions! We need to choose to put away all compromise and mixture and make choices that cause us to be holy separated unto Him, until the God of peace makes us whole. It is a key, and will prepare us for the dark days.

He wants to qualify you to be an Overcomer, but you have to decide whom will you follow. I seriously ask you this day: How long will you waver between two opinions? The Lord will tolerate zero mixture. He is coming back for a Bride who has made herself ready, without spot or wrinkle. We get to decide, everyday in the choices we make. **We saw what happened when Ahab allowed mixture – it opened the door for deception, and went after false perverse gods.** (Rev. 3:21, 19:7-9)

Galatians 5:9 A little leaven, leavens the whole lump (it perverts the whole church) AMP. **No compromise/mixture.**

If the Lord is God then follow Him, whole heartedly, but if Baal then follow him (1 Kings 18:21, Jer. 29:13). **AMEN!**