

No More Condemnation Using Your Spiritual Authority - Part 3

In Parts One and Two of "Using Your Spiritual Authority" we saw that the armor of God is the **KNOWLEDGE of who you are in Christ**, and we looked at the importance of "**taking your THOUGHTS captive**" and filling your mind with God's word, instead of believing the lies of the enemy. We looked at some specific areas where Satan attacks us, and some specific scriptures from the word of God with which to combat him. This study, Part Three, is a further and more detailed study of how Satan attacks the Believer with **condemnation and guilt**, and what the word of God has to say about the sins of our past.

The following are the four areas of attack and accusation from Satan that we looked at in Part Two. When Satan, the "Accuser of the Brethren" (Rev. 12:10) attacks a Christian with guilt and condemnation, it is many times a combination of three of these, if not all four:

1. **FEELINGS of UNWORTHINESS** - "I'm not a good-enough Christian" "I'm too great a sinner for God to save me." "God loves others, but He doesn't love me as much"
2. **FEAR & WORRY** - "I'm afraid! I don't trust God to take care of me and supply my needs!"
3. **DOUBTING YOUR SALVATION** - "I've committed the unforgiveable sin"
4. **DEPRESSION & DESPAIR** - "What's the use of trying, I've failed so many times" "I'll never conquer this addiction, habit or whatever in my life - I'm a failure!"

Here is how Satan uses guilt and condemnation in the life of a Believer. You may not doubt your salvation, but **you will doubt God's willingness to ANSWER YOUR PRAYERS** because of some sin in your past. You are saved, but you have been robbed of **the JOY of your salvation**, and the **CONFIDENCE** that God will answer your prayers. You tell yourself that you are not doubting God's promises, but deep in your soul, you doubt His willingness or ability to apply those promises to YOU! It begins with the feelings of unworthiness, then fear and worry that **God will not come through for you**, and that leads to depression and despair. This work of Satan of "accusing the brethren" (believers) may also lead to addictions, or certainly FEED addictions that may have started in your past, maybe even before you were saved. How does this work? If the feelings of doubt, lack of self-worth in your own eyes, condemnation and guilt are left unchecked, or are buried rather than cleansed out and removed, you may find yourself "medicating" the pain with drugs, alcohol, wrong sexual relationships, overeating, bingeing and purging, or other forms of escapism.

As a Believer in Jesus Christ, if you have repented of your sins, **claimed the blood of Jesus** for your cleansing of ALL sin and unrighteousness, and are NOT continuing to PRACTICE those sins, you should have NO feelings of guilt, condemnation, or consciousness of that sin at all. God has completely wiped it out and forgotten it, and you are clean and righteous in His sight. If you are continuing to practice a certain sin, then, yes, you will feel some "condemnation" from the enemy, because you have placed yourself in a position where Satan has the right to mess with you. You will also feel conviction in your spirit from the Holy Spirit, because that is His job to let you know you are doing wrong! God's word does not give us a "license" to continue sinning, but that is another study altogether. Right now, we are focusing on the SINS of your PAST, and any residual feelings of guilt or condemnation that are interfering with your walk with the Lord or your ability to BELIEVE His promises. Let's walk through the steps of repentance and restoration just to be SURE you have done everything the word of God says to do. Then, "having DONE ALL" you must learn to "STAND on the promises of God" (Eph. 6:13), and again, "take your thoughts captive" when any accusations or thoughts come to your mind that tell you otherwise (II Cor. 10:3-5).

GOD WANTS to RESTORE to YOU the JOY of YOUR SALVATION - STEPS to RESTORATION:

- 1.) Humble yourself before God, and confess and **repent** of all sin. **Repent** means to turn around and go the opposite direction, **to completely change your mind** (way of thinking) about something.
- 2.) Receive and accept by faith your complete forgiveness and cleansing, just because of **what Jesus did for YOU on the cross**, not because of anything you did to deserve it.
- 3.) Close any doors that might still be open to Satan and his demons to have access to your life. Satan is a liar, so cast out any demons that may have been attached to you, especially the "spirit of condemnation."
- 4.) Begin to walk in that freedom and forgiveness.

1.) Humble yourself before God, and confess and repent of all sin. Repent means to turn around and go the opposite direction, to completely change your mind (way of thinking) about something. Something you used to think was okay, you now acknowledge is sin.

- Psalm 34:18** "The Lord is NEAR to those who have a **BROKEN HEART**, and He saves such as have a CONTRITE spirit."
- I Corinthians 4:2** "But we have **RENOUNCED (confessed as wrong) the hidden things of SHAME**, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully...."
- Psalm 51: 1-4, 10,12** "**Have MERCY on me, O God**, according to Your loving kindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, **BLOT OUT my transgressions**. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and **CLEANSE ME from my SIN**. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight..... Create in me a CLEAN HEART, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. **RESTORE to ME the JOY of YOUR SALVATION**, and uphold me with Your generous Spirit."
- Psalm 51:16-17** "For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a **BROKEN SPIRIT; a BROKEN and a contrite HEART** — these, O God, You will not despise."
- Isaiah 1:18** "'Come now, and let us reason together', says the Lord, 'Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as **white as snow**; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.'"
- Acts 3:19** "**Repent**, therefore and be converted (turn around), that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord."

2.) Receive and accept by faith your complete forgiveness and cleansing, just because of what Jesus did for YOU on the cross, not because of anything you did to deserve it. It is vitally important that you not only believe that God has forgiven you, but that you also **FORGIVE YOURSELF!** There are no sins that are worse than others - sin is sin, in God's eyes. Just when you think you've committed the worst kind of sin ("an abomination" to God), you can find Scriptures which state that something else is an abomination to God. Abortion and homosexuality are not worse sins than lying and coveting. Drunkenness is not worse than gluttony (overeating). PRIDE is always an abomination to God. In I Cor. 6:11, Paul is speaking to Christians, showing us that the Church of Jesus Christ is made up of sinners, because he says, "such were some of you." It is only **by the blood of Jesus Christ** that we are forgiven and CLEANSED of those sins. A person who has NOT trusted Jesus Christ for salvation and forgiveness of their sins has NO PART in the kingdom of God. Jesus said, "Unless a man is BORN AGAIN, he cannot [even] SEE the Kingdom of God." (John 3:3)

•**Proverbs 6:16-19** "These six things **the Lord HATES**, yes, seven are **an abomination to Him**: a PROUD look, a LYING tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that are swift in running to evil, a false witness who speaks lies, and one who sows discord among brethren."

- Ephesians 5:5** "For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor **covetous** man, who is an **IDOLATER**, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God."

- **I Corinthians 6:9-11** "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers (users of abusive language), nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But **you were WASHED**, but **you were sanctified (made holy)**, but **you were JUSTIFIED** in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God."
- **I John 1:9** "If we confess our sins, **He is faithful** and just to **FORGIVE us our sins**, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
- **Psalm 103:10-14** "He has NOT dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, **SO GREAT is His MERCY** toward those who fear Him (reverence Him); as far as the east is from the west, so far has **He REMOVED our TRANSGRESSIONS from us.**"
- **Colossians 2:13-14** "And you, being dead in your trespasses (sins)..... has He made alive together with Him, **having FORGIVEN you ALL trespasses; BLOTTING OUT** the handwriting of requirements (God's laws that you could never keep) that was against us, and took it out of the way, **having nailed it to His CROSS.**"
- **Hebrews 10:16-17** "'This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days,' says the Lord. 'I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,' then He adds, **'Their SINS and their lawless DEEDS I will REMEMBER NO MORE.'**"
- **Isaiah 43:25** "I, even I, am the One who **WIPES OUT** your transgressions for My own sake; and **I WILL NOT REMEMBER your SINS.**"
- **Micah 7:18-19** "Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity and passes over the rebellious acts of the remnant of His possession? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in loving kindness. He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities under foot. Yes, You will **cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.**"
- **Colossians 1:14** "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption **through His blood**, even the **FORGIVENESS of sins.**"

3.) Close any doors that might still be open to Satan and his demons to have access to your life. Satan is a liar, so cast out any demons and deceiving spirits that may have been attached to you, especially the "spirit of condemnation." COMMAND all demons to leave you in the NAME of JESUS! John 8:32 "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you FREE." Tell Satan and his demons that you belong to Jesus, and he has no more right to attack you or oppress you. Tell Satan he cannot **deceive** you any longer, because **you know the truth**, and the truth has made you free. He is no longer your master — Jesus is your Lord! **CLOSE any DOORS** that have been opened to allow demons into your life by saying something like this, "**In the NAME of JESUS**, I close the door that may have been opened to allow Satan into my life through my participation in _____ (Name the sin) _____. **I ask You, Lord**, to keep the door closed with the precious blood of Jesus." Do this for each individual sin.

- **Romans 8:1** "There is therefore now **NO CONDEMNATION** to those who are **IN CHRIST JESUS**, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."
- **Ephesians 4:27** "And do not give place (opportunity) to **the DEVIL.**"
- **James 4:7-8** "Therefore **SUBMIT** to God. **RESIST the DEVIL** and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. **CLEANSE your hands, you SINNERS**; and **PURIFY your HEARTS**, you double-minded."
- **I Timothy 4:1** "Now the Spirit expressly says that in the last days some will depart from the faith, giving heed to **DECEIVING spirits** and doctrines of **DEMONS**; speaking LIES"
- **John 8:44** "You (non-believers) are of your father, **the DEVIL**, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him....for **he is a liar**, and the father of lies."

4.) Begin to walk in that freedom and forgiveness. Realize that God sees you as being completely righteous because you are in Christ. God does NOT see you with a label from

your past: adulterer, fornicator, idolater, drunkard, etc., because you are JUSTIFIED, your sins are FORGIVEN, and God does NOT REMEMBER your sins anymore (they are **WASHED away in the BLOOD of Jesus**). **Justified** means that God by His GRACE **declares RIGHTEOUS** the sinner (that's you!) who believes on Jesus Christ. It is **NOT a process of becoming** righteous, it is a **ONE-TIME ACT of GRACE** — we are MADE RIGHTEOUS the moment we accept Jesus as our Savior! It is NOT merely FORGIVENESS, although forgiveness is INCLUDED — God does indeed FORGIVE and FORGET OUR SINS. However, **JUSTIFICATION means God even FORGETS that we WERE EVER SINNERS!** There is NO MORE RECORD of our sins. Now, WALK in that freedom!

- **I John 1:7** "But if we **WALK in the light**, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and **the BLOOD of Jesus Christ His Son CLEANSSES us from ALL SIN.**"
- **II Corinthians 5:21** "For He made Him who knew no sin (Jesus) to BE SIN FOR US, **that we might be MADE the RIGHTEOUSNESS of GOD in Him.**"
- **Hebrews 9:12 & 14** "Not with the blood of goats and calves (the Old Testament sacrifices), but **with His own BLOOD** He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption [*for us*]. How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without sin to God, **PURGE your conscience** from dead works to **SERVE the living God?**"
- **I Peter 2:24** "Who Himself **bore our SINS in His own body** on the tree, **that we, having died to sins, might LIVE for righteousness** — by whose stripes you were healed."

Jesus is your "advocate" or defense attorney against Satan (I John 2:1). If Satan accuses you before God, **Jesus INTERCEDES** and steps forward and says, "**That's already PAID for - it's covered by My BLOOD!**" (Romans 8:33-34). If Satan makes the accusations to you, **in your own thoughts**, that's where "taking your thoughts captive" comes into operation. You must recognize those thoughts as being AGAINST God's truth, and counteract with the word of God. James 4:7 says "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee (run away) from you." **RESIST Satan by quoting scripture** (God's word) OUT LOUD to him, and then BELIEVE GOD'S WORD, instead of Satan's accusations. Two things happen when you speak God's word out loud: first, it is a weapon against the enemy, and second, it allows YOU to HEAR the word of God, and get it down into your spirit, and that builds your faith (see Romans 10:17).

- **I John 2:1** "My little children, these things I write to you, that you may not sin. But if **anyone sins**, we have **an Advocate with the Father**, Jesus Christ the righteous."
- **Romans 5:1 & 9** "Therefore, having been **JUSTIFIED** by faith, we have **PEACE** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Much more then, having now been **JUSTIFIED by His BLOOD**, we shall be **saved from WRATH** (God's judgment and anger) through Him."
- **Romans 3:24-26** "Being **justified freely by His GRACE** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth to be a propitiation **by His BLOOD**, through faith....." ".....that He might be just and the Justifier of the one who **has FAITH in JESUS.**"
- **Ephesians 1:7** "In Him we have **redemption** through **His blood**, the **FORGIVENESS of sins**, according to the riches of His grace."

What do you do when your prayers don't seem to be answered? Don't allow Satan to bring you under condemnation, and make you think God is holding your past sins over you, and that is why your prayers are not being answered. Instead, examine yourself, and look at some Biblical reasons as to why your prayers may SEEM to be unanswered. There is nothing beyond God's ability, but there may be some things that are not His will for our lives, and therefore He will withhold those things. The reasons are various, and **only the person praying** can examine himself to find the reason (*i.e.* - we should not JUDGE or speculate on why someone else's prayers are not answered).

- **Genesis 18:14** "Is ANYTHING TOO DIFFICULT for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son."

- **Jeremiah 32:17 & 27** "Ah Lord God! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and Your outstretched arm! **NOTHING is TOO DIFFICULT** for You." "Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; is ANYTHING too DIFFICULT for Me?"
- **Mark 10:27** "But looking at them, Jesus said, 'With men it is impossible, but not with God; for **WITH GOD all things are POSSIBLE.**'"
- **Luke 18:27** ".....The things which are IMPOSSIBLE with men are **POSSIBLE with God.**"
- **Ephesians 3:20** "Now to **Him who is ABLE** to do EXCEEDINGLY ABUNDANTLY above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."

Some common reasons in God's word for UNANSWERED PRAYER:

- 1.) **FREE WILL** - God will not FORCE someone against their will, either for salvation, or in a Christian's life for repentance, etc. Some Christians remain ignorant and stubborn out of their own choice and free will. II Timothy 2:24-26
- 2.) **GOD'S TIMING** - Some things take time, because God is working all things together, and waiting for certain things to happen. Romans 4:16-21; Rom. 8:28; Psalm 37:5-7
- 3.) **CONTINUING IN SIN or LACK OF PERSONAL GROWTH** - Obvious sin and disobedience will prevent God from answering our prayers. Also, lack of surrender to His will, and lack of putting the Lord FIRST PLACE in our lives. Mark 11:25; Psalm 66:18; I Peter 5:5-7; Rom. 12:1-2; I John 3:18-22; I Peter 3:12; II Peter 1:3-11; Matthew 6:33
- 4.) **DOUBT AND UNBELIEF** - Lack of REAL faith, and wavering back and forth. James 1:6-8; James 5:15; Matt. 15:28; Mark 11:24
- 5.) **IGNORANCE OF GOD'S WORD** - Not knowing the promises of God. John 15:7; Psalm 119:38,58,65; Hosea 4:6
- 6.) **FAILURE TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS IN GOD'S WORD** - Pride, stubbornness, thinking we know better than God how He should answer us. Genesis 4:3-7; II Kings 5:8-14
- 7.) **NOT GOD'S WILL** - We may be asking for something that is not His will for us, or even something that is completely against His will for any child of His. I John 5:14-15; Psalm 84:11
- 8.) **ASKING WITH WRONG MOTIVES** - The thing we're asking for may be in God's will, but He may withhold it if our MOTIVES are selfish or based in PRIDE. James 4:1-6; I Peter 5:5-7
- 9.) **NOT BELONGING TO GOD'S FAMILY** - The promises of God and of ANSWERED PRAYER only belong to His children through faith in Jesus Christ. Matt. 7:23; Eph. 2:12-13; John 14:6; John 16:23-24; Hebrews 4:14-16; II Corinthians 1:20-21

Please also read "How to be Set Free (Steps To Take in Resisting Satan - Deliverance)"; "Walking in Your Deliverance", Parts 1 & 2; "Knowing Who You Are in Christ", and "Knowing Who You Are in Christ - Using Your Spiritual Authority", Parts 1 & 2" and "Freedom from Generational Bondage" & "How To Have Victory Over Depression"

Questions About Forgiveness & Justification

1. What is forgiveness all about?

ANSWER: To forgive means to no longer hold someone's sins or faults against them. When **God FORGIVES our sins** through our faith in Jesus Christ, He promises to BLOT them OUT and remember them no more. Read the following scriptures to see HOW FORGIVING God is towards us:

• **Psalm 86:5 & 15** "For You, Lord, are GOOD, and **READY to FORGIVE**; and PLENTEOUS IN MERCY unto all them that call upon You." "But You, O Lord, are a God FULL of COMPASSION, and GRACIOUS, LONG-SUFFERING, and PLENTEOUS IN MERCY and TRUTH."

• **Psalm 51:1** "Have MERCY upon me, O God, according to Your LOVING-KINDNESS, according unto the multitude of **Your TENDER MERCIES BLOT OUT my transgressions.**"

•**Isaiah 43:25** "I, even I, am the One who **WIPES OUT** your transgressions for My own sake; and **I WILL NOT REMEMBER your SINS.**"

•**Hebrews 10:16-17** "'This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days,' says the Lord. 'I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,' then He adds, '**Their SINS and their lawless DEEDS I will REMEMBER NO MORE.**'"

•**Colossians 2:13-14** "And you, being dead in your TRESPASSES (sins) and the uncircumcision of your flesh, has He made alive together with Him, **having FORGIVEN you ALL trespasses; BLOTTING OUT** the handwriting of REQUIREMENTS (God's laws that we could never keep) that was against us, and took it out of the way, having nailed it to His cross."

•**Titus 3:3-6** "For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But when the KINDNESS and the LOVE of GOD our Savior toward man appeared, **NOT** by works of righteousness which we have done, but **according to His MERCY He saved us**, by the washing of regeneration (being born again) and renewing of the Holy Spirit; which He shed on us ABUNDANTLY through Jesus Christ our Savior."

•**Romans 5:8** "But God demonstrates **His own love toward us**, in that **while we were STILL SINNERS**, Christ died for us."

Now, what about us - do we have to FORGIVE others in the same way that God forgives us?

•**Ephesians 4:32** "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, **FORGIVING one another**, just as God in Christ also FORGAVE YOU."

•**Mark 11:25** "And whenever you stand praying, if you have ANYTHING against anyone (any RESENTMENT), **FORGIVE him**, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses."

•**Matthew 18:21-22** "Then Peter came to Him and said, 'Lord, **how often** shall my brother sin against me, and **I forgive him?** Up to seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.'"

Okay, so we DO have to forgive, but we are not God who can just forgive and forget, so what do we do if we still have **HURT FEELINGS, ANGER, FRUSTRATION, and RESENTMENT?** For believers in Jesus Christ, God tells us to **GET RID of ALL bitterness and resentment**, which is just another way of saying unforgiveness (Ephesians 4:26-32). Hebrews 12:15 tells us **NOT to allow a root of bitterness to GROW in us** and defile us. We are to forgive, and forgive AS MANY TIMES as God forgives US! The number "seventy times seven" is NOT to be taken literally, but is to give us an IDEA of HOW MANY TIMES we must forgive others, because GOD FORGIVES US so many times every day! **The good news** is that **God Himself provides the POWER and LOVE** necessary for us to forgive others and not carry bitterness, especially when someone does not ask for forgiveness or is not sorry for what they have done. God's word says in Romans 5:5, ".....**the LOVE of GOD** has been **poured out in our HEARTS** by the **HOLY SPIRIT** who was **given to us**," and in Philippians 2:13, "**It is GOD who WORKS IN YOU** both to will and to DO for His good pleasure."

2. What does "justification" mean?

ANSWER: Justification or the ACT of being JUSTIFIED means that God by His GRACE declares RIGHTEOUS the sinner who believes on Jesus Christ. God's Law brings condemnation, because we, weak as we are in the flesh, cannot keep it perfectly. The penalty for failure to keep the law is death, and the ULTIMATE penalty is ETERNAL DEATH in HELL. **Jesus PAID the penalty FOR US, so we are NOT CONDEMNED or DAMNED to hell.** Jesus also "**FULFILLED the righteous REQUIREMENT of the law**" FOR US (Romans 8:4). The law can't make a person holy, it can only DEMAND that he BE HOLY. In order for God to JUSTIFY us He **IMPUTES to us** (applies to our account) the righteousness of Jesus Christ (Romans 4:5-8) and since Jesus kept the law perfectly, the requirement has been FULFILLED through Him. **It is NOT a PROCESS of becoming righteous, it is a ONE-TIME act of GRACE — we are MADE RIGHTEOUS** the moment we accept Jesus as our Savior! It is NOT merely FORGIVENESS of sins, although forgiveness is INCLUDED — God does indeed FORGIVE and FORGET our

SINS. However, **JUSTIFICATION** means God even **FORGETS** that we were ever **SINNERS!** There is NO MORE RECORD of our sins (Hebrews 10:17).

•**Romans 5:1-2** "Therefore, having been **JUSTIFIED by faith**, we have PEACE with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have ACCESS by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

•**Romans 3:21-25** "But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even **the RIGHTEOUSNESS of God which is through FAITH in CHRIST JESUS** to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; for ALL have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (His perfect requirements), being **JUSTIFIED freely by His GRACE** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth to be a propitiation (sacrifice) **by His BLOOD**, through faith..."

•**Romans 5:9** "Much more then, having now been **JUSTIFIED by His BLOOD**, we shall be saved from WRATH through Him."

•**Romans 4:5** "But to him who does not WORK (doing good deeds in order to try to earn salvation) but **BELIEVES on Him who JUSTIFIES the ungodly**, his FAITH is accounted for RIGHTEOUSNESS."

3. What does sanctification mean?

ANSWER: SANCTIFICATION means HOLINESS, PURITY, being SET APART for God and His use. The word "SAINT" comes from the same word as "sanctified" in the Greek. This is a PROCESS and a ONE-TIME EXPERIENCE, both. We are sanctified, or MADE HOLY in God's sight when we accept Jesus Christ as Savior, but our continual SANCTIFICATION is the PROCESS by which **we are becoming MORE LIKE CHRIST** as we YIELD more and more of our SELVES to the control of the Holy Spirit.

•**I Thessalonians 5:23** "Now may the God of peace Himself **SANCTIFY you completely**, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless (pure, holy) at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

•**I Corinthians 6:9-11** "Do you not know that **the UNRIGHTEOUS will not inherit the kingdom of God?** Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous (greedy), nor drunkards, nor revilers (users of abusive language), nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were SOME of YOU. But **you were WASHED, but you were SANCTIFIED**, but you were JUSTIFIED in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God."

Paul is speaking to Christians here, so when he says, "And SUCH were some of YOU" he is showing us that the Church of Jesus Christ is made up of SINNERS!! However, **it is only by the BLOOD of JESUS CHRIST** that we are forgiven and CLEANSED of those sins. A person who has NOT trusted Jesus Christ for salvation and forgiveness of their sins has NO PART in the kingdom of God. Jesus said, "Unless a man is BORN AGAIN, he cannot see the Kingdom of God." (John 3:3)