

# The Holy Spirit's Work in a Christian's Sanctification

## 1) Introductory Comments

## 2) Sanctification

a) **Definition: *Progressively becoming like Jesus.*** Gradually becoming like Jesus, or becoming holy. Becoming conformed to the image of Christ. Little by little, over time — from conversion till Jesus comes back, or you die — Christians are in the process of sanctification, becoming sanctified, becoming holy. (John Piper)

## b) Salvation Overview

### i) Salvation Past – Justification

### ii) Salvation Present – Sanctification

(1) "The Christian life is essentially life in the Spirit, that is to say, a life which is animated, sustained, directed and enriched by the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit true Christian discipleship would be inconceivable, indeed impossible."  
(John Stott)

### iii) Salvation Future – Glorification

## 3) Romans 8:1-17 – The Holy Spirit works in the Christian.

- a) The Christian has a new principle (law) of life, which is provided by the Holy Spirit. (v. 2), and which provides freedom from the power of sin.
- b) Having been declared "righteous" in justification, the Holy Spirit makes it possible not to "live according to the sinful nature." (v. 4)
- c) The Holy Spirit provides a mindset different from the mindset of the "sinful nature." (v. 5)
- d) Subjectively, people experience this mindset as "life" and "peace." (v. 6)
- e) The Holy Spirit "controls" Christians. (v. 9)
- f) The Holy Spirit "lives" in Christians. (v. 9-11)
- g) The indwelling Holy Spirit will give resurrection life to our bodies in the future. (v. 11)

h) **The Holy Spirit leads and empowers Christians to overcome the power of the sinful nature in their lives, a process through which Paul says, "you will live." (v. 13)**

i) **The Holy Spirit encourages us to radically identify with God and His Kingdom, which overcomes fear of God and separation from God. (v. 15-17)**

i) **The Holy Spirit does this when He "testifies" with our spirit that we are God's children.**

j) **The seriousness of sin**

i) **Christians are called to use the Holy Spirit's power to "put to death the misdeeds of the body." (v. 13)**

ii) **We trivialize sin in our world today. We need to take it more seriously.**

**4) The Holy Spirit teaches us God's truth.**

a) **John 14:25-26**

b) **John 16:12-14**

c) **John 17:17**