

Church Membership Vow #3

Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit,
that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?

WCF XIII – Of Sanctification

13:1 They, who are once effectually called and regenerated, having a new heart and a new spirit created in them, are further sanctified really and personally, through the virtue of Christ's death and resurrection,(1) by His Word and Spirit dwelling in them;(2) the dominion of the whole body of sin is destroyed,(3) and the several lusts thereof are more and more weakened and mortified,(4) and they more and more quickened and strengthened in all saving graces,(5) to the practice of true holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.(6)

(1)1 Cor. 6:11; Acts 20:32; Phil. 3:10; Rom. 6:5,6. (2)John 17:17; Eph. 5:26; 1 Thess. 2:13. (3)Rom. 6:6,14. (4)Gal. 5:24; Rom. 8:13. (5)Col. 1:11; Eph. 3:16-19. (6)2 Cor. 7:1; Heb. 12:14.

Romans 6:8-14

⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, ⁹ knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. ¹⁰ For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. ¹¹ Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, ¹³ and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin *as* instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God. ¹⁴ For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

13:2 This sanctification is throughout in the whole man,(1) yet imperfect in this life; there abideth still some remnants of corruption in every part:(2) whence ariseth a continual and irreconcilable war; the flesh lusting against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh.(3)

(1)1 Thess. 5:23. (2)1 John 1:10; Rom. 7:18,23; Phil. 3:12. (3)Gal. 5:17; 1 Pet. 2:11.

Romans 7:14-25

¹⁴ For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin. ¹⁵ For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I *would* like to *do*, but I am doing the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ But if I do the very thing I do not want *to do*, I agree with the Law, *confessing* that the Law is good. ¹⁷ So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good *is* not. ¹⁹ For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want. ²⁰ But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. ²¹ I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. ²² For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, ²³ but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

13:3 In which war, although the remaining corruption, for a time, may much prevail,(1) yet, through the continual supply of strength from the sanctifying Spirit of Christ, the regenerate part doth overcome;(2) and so, the saints grow in grace,(3) perfecting holiness in the fear of God.(4)

(1)Rom. 8:23. (2)Rom. 6:14; 1 John 5:4; Eph. 4:15,16. (3)2 Pet. 3:18; 2 Cor. 3:18. (4)2 Cor. 7:1.

Romans 8:1-11

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God *did*: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and *as an offering* for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, ⁷ because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so*, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. ¹⁰ If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. ¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Biblical View of Sanctification



**Unregenerate
Man**



**Regenerate
Man**

Unbiblical View of Sanctification



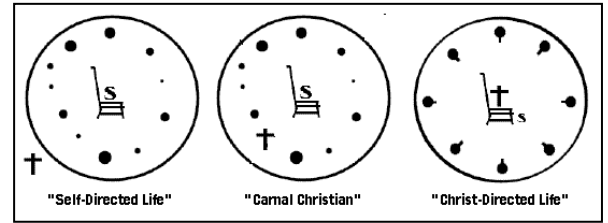
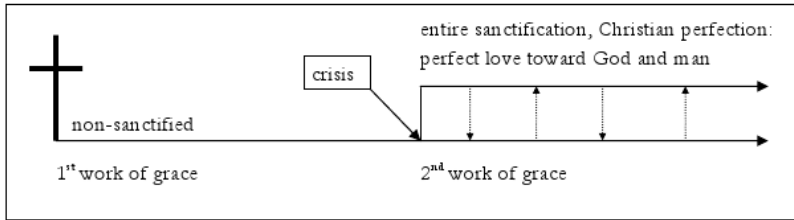
**Unregenerate
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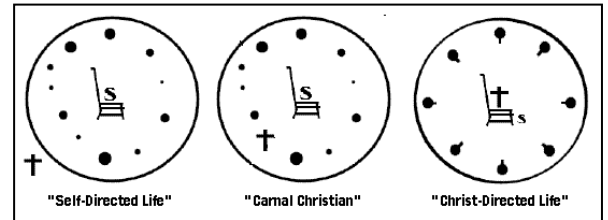
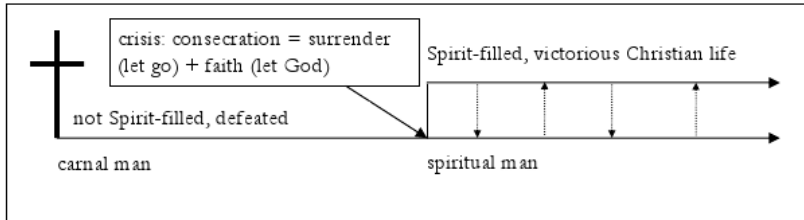
**Regenerate
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Five Views of Sanctification¹

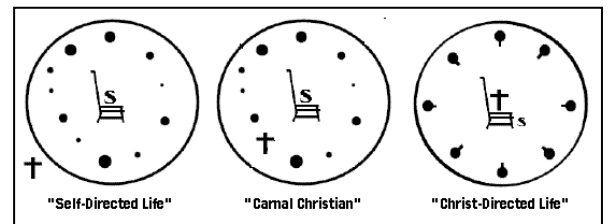
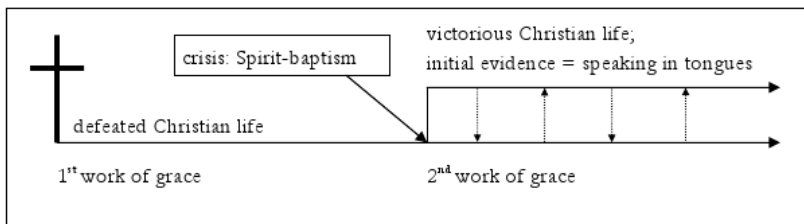
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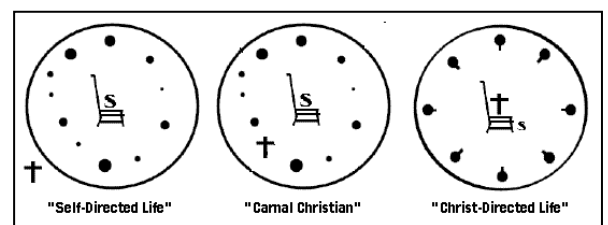
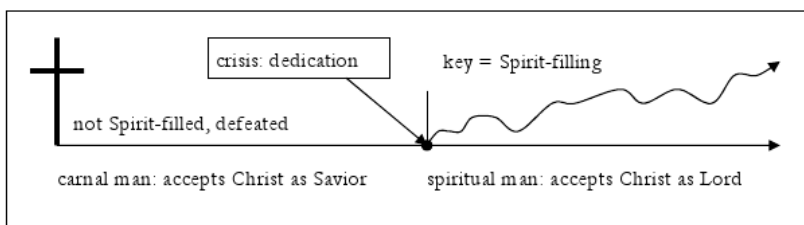
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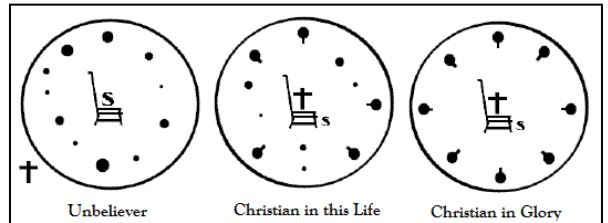
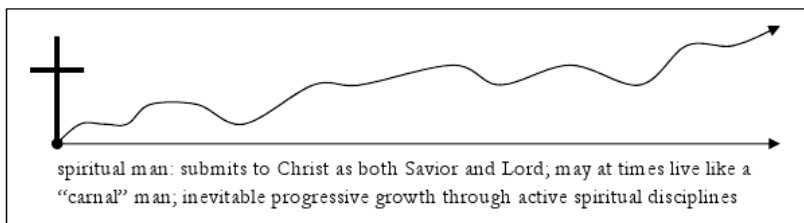
C. The Pentecostal (Assemblies of God) View of Sanctification



D. The Chaferian View of Sanctification



E. The Reformed View of Sanctification



¹ Naselli, Andrew David, *Keswick Theology: A Survey and Analysis of the Doctrine of Sanctification in the Early Keswick Movement*, <http://www.dbts.edu/pdf/rls/NaselliHandout.pdf> (accessed November 13, 2012). [The graphs in the left column are from Andrew Naselli. The pictures in the right column are from the original Campus Crusade tract, "Four Spiritual Laws." Campus Crusade has since removed the "Carnal Christian" from their tracts, but their view still differs from the Reformed view of sanctification, as the last graph tries to show.]

WCF XVI – Of Good Works

16:1 Good works are only such as God hath commanded in His holy Word,(1) and not such as, without the warrant thereof, are devised by men, out of blind zeal, or upon any pretence of good intention.(2)

(1)Micah 6:8; Rom. 12:2; Heb. 13:21. (2)Matt. 15:9; Isa. 29:13; 1 Pet. 1:18; Rom. 10:2.

Romans 10:2

² For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge.

16:2 These good works, done in obedience to God's commandments, are the fruits and evidences of a true and lively faith:(1) and by them believers manifest their thankfulness,(2) strengthen their assurance,(3) edify their brethren,(4) adorn the profession of the Gospel,(5) stop the mouths of the adversaries,(6) and glorify God,(7) whose workmanship they are, created in Christ Jesus thereunto;(8) that, having their fruit unto holiness, they may have the end eternal life.(9)

(1)James 2:18,22. (2)Ps. 116:12,13; 1 Pet. 2:9. (3)1 John 2:3,5; 2 Pet. 1:5-10. (4)2 Cor. 9:2; Matt. 5:16. (5)Tit. 2:5,9,10,11,12; 1 Tim. 6:1. (6)1 Pet. 2:15. (7)1 Pet. 2:12; Phil. 1:11; John 15:8. (8)Eph. 2:10. (9)6:22.

Romans 6:22

²² But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.

16:3 Their ability to do good works is not at all of themselves, but wholly from the Spirit of Christ.(1) And that they may be enabled thereunto, beside the graces they have already received, there is required an actual influence of the same Holy Spirit to work in them to will and to do of His good pleasure:(2) yet are they not hereupon to grow negligent, as if they were not bound to perform any duty unless upon a special motion of the Spirit; but they ought to be diligent in stirring up the grace of God that is in them.(3)

(1)John 15:4,5,6; Ezek. 36:26,27. (2)Phil. 2:13; Phil. 4:13; 2 Cor. 3:5. (3)Phil. 2:12; Heb. 6:11,12; 2 Pet. 1:3,5,10,11; Isa. 64:7; 2 Tim. 1:6; Acts 26:6,7; Jude 20,21.

2 Peter 1:2-11

² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; ³ seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. ⁴ For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of *the* divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. ⁵ Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in *your* moral excellence, knowledge, ⁶ and in *your* knowledge, self-control, and in *your* self-control, perseverance, and in *your* perseverance, godliness, ⁷ and in *your* godliness, brotherly kindness, and in *your* brotherly kindness, love. ⁸ For if these *qualities* are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For he who lacks these *qualities* is blind *or* shortsighted, having forgotten *his* purification from his former sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; ¹¹ for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.

16:4 They who, in their obedience, attain to the greatest height which is possible in this life, are so far from being able to supererogate, and to do more than God requires, as that they fall short of much which in the duty they are bound to do.(1)

(1)Luke 17:10; Neh. 13:22; Job 9:2,3; Gal. 5:17.

Luke 17:7-10

⁷ "Which of you, having a slave plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come immediately and sit down to eat?' ⁸ "But will he not say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat, and *properly* clothe yourself and serve me while I eat and drink; and afterward you may eat and drink?' ⁹ "He does not thank the slave because he did the things which were commanded, does he? ¹⁰ "So you too, when you do all the things which are commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy slaves; we have done *only* that which we ought to have done.'"

16:5 We cannot, by our best works, merit pardon of sin, or eternal life, at the hand of God, by reason of the great disproportion that is between them and the glory to come, and the infinite distance that is between us and God, whom by them, we can neither profit nor satisfy for the debt of our former sins;(1) but when we have done all we can, we have done but our duty, and are unprofitable servants;(2) and because, as they are good, they proceed from His Spirit;(3) and as they are wrought by us, they are defiled, and mixed with so much weakness and imperfection, that they cannot endure the severity of God's judgment.(4)

(1)Rom. 3:20; Rom. 4:2,4,6; Eph. 2:8,9; Tit. 3:5,6,7; Rom. 8:18; Ps. 16:2; Job. 22:2,3; Job 35:7,8. (2)Luke 17:10. (3)Gal. 5:22,23. (4)Isa. 64:6; Gal. 5:17; Rom. 7:15,18; Ps. 143:2; Ps. 130:3.

Galatians 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

16:6 Notwithstanding, the persons of believers being accepted through Christ, their good works also are accepted in Him;(1) not as though they were in this life wholly unblameable and unprovable in God's sight;(2) but that He, looking upon them in His Son, is pleased to accept and reward that which is sincere, although accompanied with many weaknesses and imperfections.(3)

(1)Eph. 1:6; 1 Pet. 2:5; Exod. 28:38; Gen. 4:4; Heb. 11:4. (2)Job 9:20; Ps. 143:2. (3)Heb. 13:20,21; 2 Cor. 8:12; Heb. 6:10; Matt. 25:21,23.

Genesis 4:4-5

⁴ Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering; ⁵ but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell.

16:7 Works done by unregenerate men, although, for the matter of them, they may be things which God commands, and of good use both to themselves and others;(1) yet, because they proceed not from an heart purified by faith;(2) nor are done in a right manner, according to the Word;(3) nor to a right end, the glory of God;(4) they are therefore sinful, and cannot please God, or make a man meet to receive grace from God.(5) And yet, their neglect of them is more sinful and displeasing unto God.(6)

(1)2 Kings 10:30,31; 1 Kings 21:27,29; Phil. 1:15,16,18. (2)Gen. 4:5; Heb. 11:4,6. (3) 1 Cor. 13:3; Isa. 1:12. (4) Matt. 6:2,5,16. (5) Hag. 2:14; Tit. 1:15; Amos 5:21,22; Hosea 1:4; Rom. 9:16; Tit. 3:15. (6) Ps. 14:4; Ps. 36:3; Job 21:14,15; Matt. 25:41,42,43,45; Matt. 23:3.

Hebrews 11:4-6

⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained the testimony that he was righteous, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks. ⁵ By faith Enoch was taken up so that he would not see death; AND HE WAS NOT FOUND BECAUSE GOD TOOK HIM UP; for he obtained the witness that before his being taken up he was pleasing to God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

WCF XVII – Of the Perseverance of the Saints

17:1 They, whom God hath accepted in His Beloved, effectually called and sanctified by His Spirit, can neither totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace; but shall certainly persevere therein to the end, and be eternally saved.(1)

(1)Phil. 1:6; 2 Pet. 1:10; John 10:28,29; 1 John 3:9; 1 Pet. 1:5,9.

Philippians 1:6

⁶ For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

17:2 This perseverance of the saints depends not upon their own free will, but upon the immutability of the decree of election, flowing from the free and unchangeable love of God the Father;(1) upon the efficacy of the merit and intercession of Jesus Christ;(2) the abiding of the Spirit, and of the seed of God within them;(3) and the nature of the covenant of grace:(4) from all which ariseth also the certainty and infallibility thereof.(5)

(1)2 Tim. 2:18,19; Jer. 31:3. (2)Heb. 10:10,14; Heb. 13:20,21; Heb. 9:12-15; Rom. 8:33-39; John 17:11,24; Luke 22:32; Heb. 7:25. (3)John 14:16,17; 1 John 2:27; 1 John 3:9. (4)Jer. 32:40. (5)John 10:28; 2 Thess. 3:3; 1 John 2:19.

2 Timothy 2:16-19

¹⁶ But avoid worldly *and* empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness, ¹⁷ and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, ¹⁸ *men* who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some. ¹⁹ Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness."

17:3 Nevertheless, they may, through the temptations of Satan and of the world, the prevalency of corruption remaining in them, and the neglect of the means of their preservation, fall into grievous sins;(1) and, for a time, continue therein:(2) whereby they incur God's displeasure,(3) and grieve His Holy Spirit,(4) come to be deprived of some measure of their graces and comforts;(5) have their hearts hardened,(6) and their consciences wounded;(7) hurt and scandalize others,(8) and bring temporal judgments upon themselves.(9)

(1)Matt. 26:70,72,74. (2)Ps. 51:(title), 14. (3)Isa. 64:5,7,9; 2 Sam. 11:27. (4)Eph. 4:30. (5)Ps. 51:8,10,12; Rev. 2:4; Cant. 5:2,3,4,6. (6)Isa. 63:17; Mark 6:52; Mark 16:14. (7)Ps. 32:3,4; Ps. 51:8. (8)2 Sam. 12:14. (9)Ps. 89:31,32; 1 Cor. 11:32.

Hebrews 12:4-7

⁴ You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin; ⁵ and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, "MY SON, DO NOT REGARD LIGHTLY THE DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD, NOR FAINT WHEN YOU ARE REPROVED BY HIM; ⁶ FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES, AND HE SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES." ⁷ It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom *his* father does not discipline?