

## **Justification & Sanctification Outline - Mike Baird**

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### **Atonement accomplishes more than just remission of sins**

- Atonement accomplishes justification
  - Justification removes the punishment for past sins
  - Justification does not remove the stain or effect of past sin
- Atonement accomplishes sanctification
  - Sanctification is the process that removes the stain
  - Sanctification is the process whereby we become pure and Christ like

### **Justification**

#### ***Foundational nature of Law & Justice***

- 1 Nephi 2:13  
"And if ye shall say there is no law, ye shall also say there is no sin"
  - Sin is disobedience of law
    - If nothing to disobey then there is no sin
- 1 Nephi 2:13 (cont)  
" If ye shall say there is no sin, ye shall also say there is no righteousness"
  - Righteousness is obedience
    - If nothing to obey then there is no righteousness
- 1 Nephi 2:13 (cont)  
"if there be no righteousness there be no happiness"

- Happiness (effect) only exists if righteousness (cause) is present
- 1 Nephi 2:13 (cont)  
"And if there be no righteousness nor happiness there be no punishment nor misery"
  - Misery (effect) only exists if sin (cause) is present
- 1 Nephi 2:13 (cont)  
"And if these things are not there is no God. And if there is no God we are not, neither the earth; for there could have been no creation of things, neither to act nor to be acted upon; wherefore, all things must have vanished away"
  - Without the foundation of Law
    - Lehi concludes there could be no God, earth, mankind
  - Without law
    - Cannot predict outcome of actions
    - No such thing as choice (no cause & effect)
    - Existence would simply be chaos
    - We could not act, only be "acted upon"
- 1 Nephi 2:14  
"for there is a God, and he hath created all things, both the heavens and the earth, and all things that in them are, both things to act and things to be acted upon"
  - Reality is otherwise!

### ***Law condemns us to temporal & Spiritual death***

- 1 Nephi 2:5  
" ...And by the law no flesh is justified; or, by the law men are cut off. Yea, by the temporal law they were cut off; and also, by the spiritual law they perish from that which is good, and become miserable forever."
  - The law condemns us
    - By virtue of the fall
    - Our own disobedience
    - Would become "miserable forever"

### ***Satan's plan (desires of many in world today)***

- Eliminate or get rid of the law
- Would be no sin

- Alma 42:1  
"ye do try to suppose that it is injustice that the sinner should be consigned to a state of misery"  
  - The world would have this
  - Problem – approach would also eliminate potential for happiness also

### ***Christ "answers the ends of the law"***

- 2 Nephi 2:6-7  
 "6) Wherefore, redemption cometh in and through the Holy Messiah; for he is full of grace and truth.  
 7) Behold, he offereth himself a sacrifice for sin, to answer the ends of the law, *unto all those* who have a broken heart and a contrite spirit; and *unto none else* can the ends of the law be answered"  
  - Christ satisfies the ends of the law on our behalf by His own suffering ( 2 Peter 3:18, D&C 19:16-19)
  - This done through "the infinite virtue of His great atoning sacrifice" (The Living Christ, The Testimony of the Apostles)
  - Pardon comes by grace of Christ
  - Condemnation removed without removing the law
  - Pardoned & placed in a condition of righteousness
  - We are sustained by the law, justice (justified)

### ***Definition of Justification***

- One who is pardoned, without sin, guiltless
- Harold B Lee:  
" Justify means to pronounce free from guilt or blame, or to absolve"  
(Stand Ye in Holy Places, Pg 51-52 )
- Bruce R McConkie:  
" What, then, is the doctrine of justification. . . . To be justified is to be made righteous and therefore to be saved. Men are justified in what they do when their deeds conform to divine standards. Righteous acts are approved of the Lord; they are ratified by the Holy Ghost; they are sealed by the Holy Spirit of Promise; or, in other words, they are justified by the Spirit." (Promised Messiah, p. 344.)

## **Sanctification**

### ***What is Sanctification?***

- Bruce R McConkie:  
"To be sanctified is to become clean, pure, and spotless; to be free from the blood and sins of the world; to become a new creature of the Holy Ghost, one whose body has been renewed by the rebirth of the Spirit" (Mormon Doctrine, p. 675.)
- Two facets to sanctification
  - Atonement
  - Power of the Holy Ghost

### ***Sanctification by shedding of blood of Christ (Atonement)***

- Christ's blood sanctifies God's repentant children by washing them clean in a way that extends beyond the remission of sins at baptism
  - D&C 76:40 - 41  
"And this is the gospel, the glad tidings, which the voice out of the heavens bore record unto us—  
That he came into the world, even Jesus, to be crucified for the world, and to bear [justify] the sins of the world, and to sanctify the world, and to cleanse it from all unrighteousness"
  - Moroni 10:33  
" ... ye sanctified in Christ by the grace of God, through the shedding of the blood of Christ"
  - Moses 6:60  
" For by the water ye keep the commandment; by the Spirit ye are justified, and by the blood ye are sanctified"

### ***Power of the Holy Ghost – Sanctification agent***

- The power of the Holy Ghost is the agent that purifies the heart and gives an abhorrence of sin
  - 3 Nephi 27:20  
" ye may be sanctified by the reception of the Holy Ghost"
  - Alma 13:12  
" Now they, after being sanctified by the Holy Ghost, having their garments made white, being pure and spotless before God, could not look upon sin save it were with abhorrence; and there were many, exceedingly great

many, who were made pure and entered into the rest of the Lord their Gods"

- D&C 84:33  
" ... sanctified by the Spirit unto the renewing of their bodies"
- Bruce R McConkie:  
" Truly, the Holy Ghost is a sanctifier, and the extent to which men receive and enjoy the gift of the Holy Ghost is the extent to which they are sanctified" (New Witness to the Articles of Faith, p. 266.)

### **Justification & Sanctification - a "Vicarious gift"**

- "His was a great vicarious gift in behalf of all who would ever live upon the earth. " (The Living Christ, The Testimony of the Apostles)
- D. Todd Christofferson:  
"Justification and sanctification are the fruit of the Atonement's "infinite virtue," which virtue we also refer to as mercy or grace." (Justification and Sanctification, Ensign, June 2001, p. 18)
- Gift is not earned, yet we must do
  - 2 Nephi 25:23  
"for we know that it is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do"
  - D&C 20:31-32  
"we know that justification through the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is just and true; ... we know also, that sanctification through the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is just and true, to all those who love and serve God with all their mights, minds, and strength "

### ***Gift must be accepted***

- D&C 88:33  
"For what doth it profit a man if a gift is bestowed upon him, and he receive not the gift?"
  - Gift is not earned yet there is something we must do
- We are debtors to Christ and must accept his stipulations for the gift
  - D. Todd Christofferson:  
" One must choose Christ to receive what Christ offers."  
(Justification and Sanctification, Ensign, June 2001, p. 18)
  - Gerald Lund:  
" The atoning power of God unto salvation is a freely available gift from him—but our works of righteousness are essential to bring

the gift into power in our lives" ("Salvation: By Grace or by Works?" Ensign, Apr. 1981, 17)

- 2 Nephi 2:7  
"Behold, he offereth himself a sacrifice for sin, to answer the ends of the law, *unto all those* who have a broken heart and a contrite spirit; and *unto none else* can the ends of the law be answered?"
- 2 Nephi 31:17  
"do the things which I have told you I have seen that your Lord and your Redeemer should do"
- 3 Nephi 27:20  
"Repent, all ye ends of the earth, and come unto me and be baptized in my name, that ye may be sanctified by the reception of the Holy Ghost, that ye may stand spotless before me at the last day"

### **Justification & Sanctification - a process not an event**

- 2 Nephi 31:19-20  
"if ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and *endure to the end*, behold, thus saith the Father: Ye shall have eternal life."
- 3 Nephi 27:16-17, 19  
16) "And it shall come to pass, that whoso repenteth and is baptized in my name shall be filled; and *if he endureth to the end*, behold, him will I hold guiltless before my Father..."  
17) "he that *endureth not* unto the end, the same is he that is also hewn down and cast into the fire..."  
19) "no unclean thing can enter into his kingdom; therefore nothing entereth into his rest save it be those who have washed their garments in my blood, because of their faith, and the repentance of all their sins, *and their faithfulness unto the end.*"
- Dallin H Oaks:  
" the Final Judgment is not just an evaluation of a sum total of good and evil acts--what we have done. It is an acknowledgment of the final effect of our acts and thoughts--what we have become." (The Challenge to Become, Ensign, Nov 2000, p. 32)
- D. Todd Christofferson:  
"It is clear that our acceptance of the gift of grace is not a single act occurring at a single moment in time, but is instead an ongoing process and obligation " (Justification and Sanctification, Ensign, June 2001, p. 18)

## **References**

- Justification and Sanctification By Elder D. Todd Christofferson (Ensign, Ensign, June 2001, pg 18)
- The Challenge to Become By Elder Dallin H Oaks, Ensign, Nov 2000, pg 32)