

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for June 21-22, 1997

"A Prayer for Sanctification"

Dale Whitehead

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Part II

The nature of sanctification

Sanctify (HAGIAZO) means "to separate".

Goal of Sanctification (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

The word "entirely" (HOLOTELEIS) is a compound of HOLOS which means "whole" and TELOS which means "end". Its basic connotation is therefore "wholly attaining the end, reaching the intended goal." The prayer is that divine sanctification may extend to every part of their being, leaving no area untouched.

The components of Sanctification (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

Paul's use of the three nouns "spirit and soul and body" should not be pressed to make clear distinctions between each of these three words. Paul never in any of his epistles ever intimates that we are made up of three distinct parts. Rather over and over again we see Paul inferring that there are really only two parts, the material and immaterial part of man."

The protector of Sanctification (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

The word "preserved" implies the guarding of something to keep it safe. It is passive in the Greek. It is therefore not us who is responsible for this but rather the Lord.

"Blameless" (AMEMPTOS) is used only twice in the New Testament. It denotes a condition of being blameless, "so that there is no cause for censure". It does not imply a condition utterly without defect, but rather a condition where no just cause for complaint can be raised.

The security of our Final Sanctification (1 Thessalonians 5:24)