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Doctrine of Justification and Sanctification
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## **Doctrine of Justification and Sanctification**

The doctrines of justification and sanctification influence Christian life and ministry differently. Salvation is the transformative process of being born anew from sin, a spiritual rebirth by God's common grace (Shatzer, "Justification"). Justification, the initial step in this process, involves a judicial, spiritual, and flesh union with Christ. This doctrine influences Christians to justify salvation as an essential pathway to passing God's judgment. God assumes the role of the Judge, declaring the righteous who live in Christ (Morgan, 359). In our community, Christians embrace salvation in action, beliefs, and ministry to achieve the underlying benefits from God. One benefit that Christians look up to is adoption, attaining a positive relationship with God, and being born again and saved (John 1). Christians justify salvation as necessary for reinforcing the believers' status as children of God, forgiveness of sins, reconciliation with God, and the freedom to live in Christ.

The doctrine of sanctification follows, representing the ongoing process of believers being molded into the likeness of Christ, a journey toward holiness (Shatzer, "Sanctification"). This process is dynamic and varies among individuals (1 Thessalonians 5:23, Philippians 2:13). Sanctification requires an active role on the part of believers, emphasizing personal responsibility and engagement in spiritual growth (Romans 6:13, Romans 8:13). These aspects influence Christians' life today by how we strive to transform and look like Christ in spirit, faith, and flesh. The Christian life also embraces perseverance as a crucial component of sanctification. This doctrine influences Christian ministry to advocate for salvation, encouraging sinners to repent and return to Christ. The emphasis is on encouraging individuals in their spiritual journey, recognizing the transformative power of God's grace.

Christians embrace and minister for salvation to achieve glorification, the culmination of sanctification. Upon death, sanctified Christians will enjoy the glory of God and eternal life (1 Corinthians 15, 1 John 3:2). This final stage represents the ultimate need for redemption and salvation, as believers become holy as Christ is holy. "Through it all, he saves us for our good and, ultimately, for his glory" (Morgan, 390). Thus, the doctrines of justification and sanctification influence Christian life and ministry to focus on a transformative journey toward redemption, holiness, and, ultimately, earning the glory of God.

## References

Morgan, C. W., & Peterson, R. A. (2020). *Christian Theology: The Biblical Story and Our Faith*.

B&H Publishing Group.

Shatzer, "Justification"

Shatzer, "Sanctification "

1 Corinthians 15

1 John 3:2

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Philippians 2:13

John 1

Romans 6:13, Romans 8:13

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