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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church
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Series: 2013 Basic Doctrines

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2013 Basic Doctrines (22) **(Cleansing in the CWL)**

Last week, we studied Purification/Cleansing from Adam's original sin (AOS) that resulted in a status of holiness by sanctification (Heb.1:3).

In today's lesson text, Paul is teaching about the mystery of Christ and the Church – "This mystery is great but I am **speaking with reference to Christ and the church.**" (Eph.5:32)

In the greater context of (Eph.5:22-32), Paul used the analogy of the marriage between a Christian man and woman to illustrate details of the Divine Union between Christ and His Church. Today's lesson will deal with some of **these details**. We will focus on the English word cleansed (katharizo).

We will study <u>four aspects</u> of how purification / cleansing works to develop holiness in the CWL.
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1. Note that Paul connected sanctification (hagiazō) of salvation with purification/ cleansing (katharizo) in the Christian Way of Life (CWL) in (Eph.5:25-27).

This was typical Pauline basic theology. I encourage you to study the [50 Things](#) involved in your Salvation.

(1 Pet.1:15-16) "But like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'" (Lev.11:44; Acts 10-11/ shadow Christology)

(2 Tim.1:9) "Who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity."

(Heb.9:14) "How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God."

(Acts 15:9) "And He made no distinction between **us and them**, cleansing their hearts by faith."
(Rom.1:16)

2. Once again Paul uses the Greek grammar to mark an outline to connect doctrinally sanctification of salvation with purification / cleansing in the Christian's life (CWL) in (Eph.5:25-27).

POINT: "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved (agapao / a.a.ind.3ps) the church and gave Himself up (paradidomi / a.a.ind.3ps) for her;" (Eph.5:25)

Three sub-points: Three Greek (hina) [that] markers (divine purpose) working off the two verbs (agapao) [loved] and (paradidomi) [gave up] (Titus 3:5).

- "**That** (hina) He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing (to loutron) [basin, laver, bath] of water with the word," (Eph.5:26; Ex.30:17-21; Ex.3:5; John 2:6; 13:6-10)
- "**That** (hina) He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing, (Eph.5:27a; 1 Pet.1:19; John 1:29)
- "**But that** (alla hina) [contrast] she should be holy and blameless." (Eph.5:27b; Eph.1:4)

3. **One important doctrine that is taught from our lesson text is sanctifying (holiness) cleansing ministry of the indwelling Holy Spirit through inhale and exhale of the word of God – “Having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word.”**

Paul is showing the benefit of the **inhale / exhale** ministry of the word of God under the ministry of the indwelling Spirit of Truth (Eph.5:25-27; 2 Tim.3:16-17).

Jesus taught about this ministry in (John 14-16) (Upper Room Discourse). Jesus referred to it as the Counselor (parakletos) ministry of the Spirit of truth.

(John 14:16-17, 25-26) “and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you”. (John 14:25-26)

(John 15:26-27) “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

(John 16:13-16) “But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”

Paul mentions a **positive** and **negative** in (Eph.5:27). “and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless”.

Positive (3 things)

Negative (3 things)

4. **Another important doctrine to be taught in this lesson of sanctifying (holiness) cleansing in the CWL is confession of personal sin to restore fellowship and spirituality (1 Cor.3:1-3; Rom.13:13-14; Gal.5:16-17).**

(1 John 1:9) “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous **to forgive** us our sins and **to cleanse** us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 5:17; James 4:17)

(1 John 1:7) “But if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have **fellowship** with one another, and the blood of Jesus **His Son cleanses** us from all sin.” (1 John 1:5; 2:1-2)

(2 Cor.7:1) “Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting (epiteleo) holiness in the fear of God.” (Rom.6:13; Phil.1:6)

(Eph.5:27) “That He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and blameless.” (Job 1:1; Gen.6:9)

“**Instructing us to deny** ungodliness and worldly desires **and to live** sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age.” (Titus 2:12)

MY POINT: There is one purification but many cleansing (John 13:10).