



Sanctification is intrinsically intertwined with the person & ministry of the Holy Spirit in your life.

- Indwelling has to do with *residency* in your body.
- Filling has to do with *empowering* you for service.
- Sanctification has to do with *holiness* or *Christlikeness* in your living.

*Meaning of Sanctification* — becoming like Christ

*Process of Sanctification* — seeing Christ in His Word & being transformed into His image

*Result of Sanctification* — the fruit of the Spirit

*Confusion re: Sanctification* — where do “rules” and “standards” fit in?

## 1. \_\_\_\_\_: Sanctification, Freedom and Standards

Galatians 5:1; 2 Corinthians 3:17 – **Free!** No more rules. If you establish a set of rules called \_\_\_\_\_ for Christians to follow you are a \_\_\_\_\_.

## 2. \_\_\_\_\_: Free from Law

**LEGALISM** = Obeying Law as a Means of Attaining Salvation. I am made right with God because of what I do.

**LIBERTY** = Freedom From the Law as a Means of Attaining Salvation and Freedom From the Condemnation of the Law. I am made right with God because of what He did.

Galatians 3, 5; Romans 3, 7 and 8:2-4; 2 Corinthians 3

Well, what about standards?

## 3. CLARITY: Standards & Holiness

Loving and walking with a holy God requires a holy life – Philippians 3:15-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-3a; Titus 2:11-15; 1 Peter 4:1-5.

### Once For All

1. Free from the law,  
O happy condition,  
Jesus hath bled,  
and there is remission;  
Cursed by the law  
and bruised by the fall,  
Grace hath redeemed us  
once for all.

2. Now are we free —  
there's no condemnation,  
Jesus provides  
a perfect salvation;  
“Come unto Me,”  
O hear His sweet call,  
Come, and He saves us  
once for all.

— Philip P. Bliss

**Question: Does “obeying” standards make me holy?**

Standards do not **make me holy** but they may **reflect that I am walking with a holy God** and therefore I am out of step with the habits of the world.

It is not “*what*” but “*why*” — not *what* I do but *why* I do *what* I do.

I do not do *what* I do “to become” *holy*.  
I do *what* I do “because I am” *holy*.

What I “AM” determines what I “DO.” The heart is the key.

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**4. CLARITY: \_\_\_\_\_ Speaks to This Matter of Standards**

The scribes & Pharisees were very legalistic – they earned their salvation by conforming to the Mosaic law – Matthew 23:23-28.

1. **What the Scribes & Pharisees Did** – outside but not inside.
2. **Jesus’ Advice to Them** – not either/or but inside/outside!

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**5. CLARITY: Is There \_\_\_\_\_ for Differences?**

Is it possible to love Jesus and walk with Him yet not live according to standards that are honoring to Him? I would say “Yes!” Why?

1. **Development of Conscience** – Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Philippians 3:15-19 – “Ride on your parent’s convictions until you have convictions of your own” (Greg Mann).
2. **Mis-training of Conscience** – “weaker brethren” Romans 14-15; “meat & idolatry” 1 Corinthians 8-10.
3. **Failure of Teaching**  
Titus 2:11-15 and 2 Timothy 4:1-4

**CONCLUSION** – At the end of the day....

1. **Unity in the Church** – Unity in God’s church is critical for the strength and ability of the church to fulfill the Great Commission. Rugged individualism hurts unity and weakens the church. Philippians 1:27; 3:15-17 and 1 Corinthians 1:10; 11:14-16
2. **Attitude is Critical** (critically important...not a critical attitude!)  
Love, kindness and a desire to be understanding should be among the highest “rules” of the “standards” that are required.  
*Are Fundamentalists Legalists?* by Ernest Pickering

**That’s a great combination** – a church...

- whose rule of faith and practice is God’s Word,
- whose desire is to call the lost to salvation & the saved to holiness,
- whose spirit is acceptance, love and understanding.