

# Ephesians Series

Lesson #263

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Dean Bible Ministries

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# Understanding Who We Now Are in Christ

## Ephesians 5:26–27



# EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK  
& WARFARE  
OF THE BELIEVER

## **The Metaphor of “Walking”**

**“Walking” is a metaphor that describes the totality of a person’s lifestyle including their philosophy of life, their worldview, their way of thinking, talking, and acting.**

**It involves a code of conduct for all areas of life, the standards by which we should live.**

**The Christian life is more than morality. It is a life based on and empowered by God the Holy Spirit.**

**Eph. 5:18, “And do not be drunk by means of wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled by means of the Spirit,”**

**Col. 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly with all wisdom, resulting in teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”**

**Eph. 5:25, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,  
Eph. 5:26, “that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,  
Eph. 5:27, “that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.**

**Eph. 5:28, “So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.**

**Eph. 5:29, “For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church,**

**Eph. 5:30, “For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.**

**Eph. 5:31, “ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’**

**Eph. 5:32, “This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.**

**Eph. 5:33, “Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”**

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# Characteristics of God's Love

**Key terms describing God's love:**

**volitional,  
unchanging,  
eternal,  
faithful,  
dependable,  
loyal,  
sacrificial;**

**God's love is based on God's integrity, not on who we are or what we have done.**

**God's love is the source of His grace and mercy towards those who are undeserving.**

**Col. 3:19, “Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter  
[or harsh] toward them.”**

**Eph. 5:25, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,**

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**Why so much of a description? What is the significance of these statements? And why is this emphasis on the Church, not individuals?**

**What do these words mean? And why is this so important?**

**Sanctify, sacred, consecrated?**

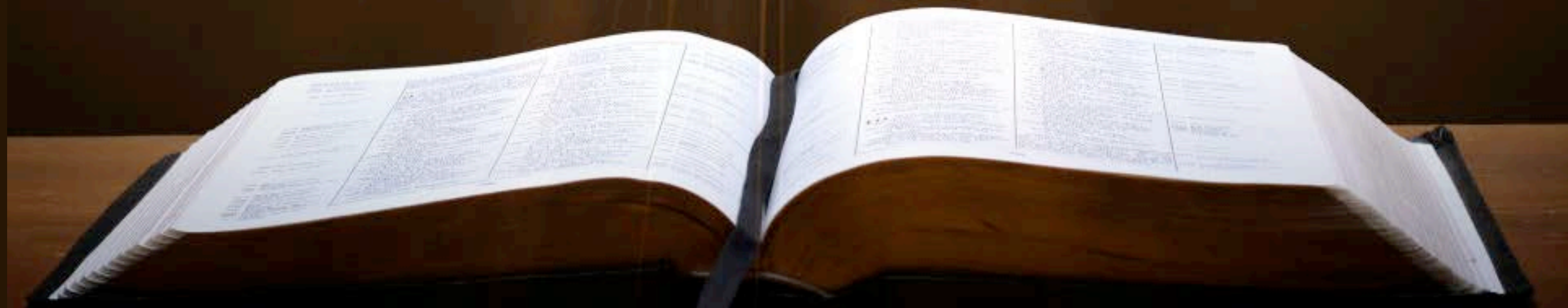
**Cleanse, wash, purify?**

**So Paul states three aims, goals, or purposes to express why Christ gave Himself for the church:**

- 1. To sanctify (set her apart) and to cleanse (to spiritually purify from sin) by the washing by the Word.  
(Actually very few understand sanctify, cleansing, or washing by the Word)**
- 2. To present the Church to Himself as a glorious church.  
(What does that mean? Why does He do that?)**
- 3. That she should be holy and without blemish. (What do these words mean?)**

# What the Bible Teaches About

Holy  
*“Holy, Sacred,  
Consecrated, Sanctified”*



**2 Kings 23:7, “Then he tore down the ritual booths of the perverted persons that were in the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the wooden image.”**

**καδησιμ *kadēsīm* masc plur gen (comm) (Heb) male shrine prostitutes**

***qedeshim* 1 קְדֵשִׁים *qadesh-1* Adjective masc plur abs cult prostitute**

**These words are always used in a ritual application, that which is set apart to the service of a deity.**

**God is Unique: no one, no thing, no angel, spirit, false god,  
is like *Yhwh***

**Ex. 15:11, “Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods?  
Who is like You, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises,  
doing wonders?”**

**Isa. 40:25, “ ‘To whom then will you liken Me, or to whom  
shall I be equal?’ says the Holy One.”**

**Isa. 43:15, “ ‘I am the LORD, your Holy One, the Creator of  
Israel, your King.’ ”**

# ESSENCE OF GOD

Holy

**Sovereign**

**Omniscient**

**Righteousness**

**Omnipresent**

**Justice**

**Omnipotent**

**Love**

**Veracity**

**Eternal Life**

**Immutability**

# **Conclusion**

**When we think of God as “Holy,” we should think of Him as unique, distinct, one of a kind, the only true God.**

**When we think of ourselves as holy, we should think, “set apart,” we are “set apart” to the service of God in two ways:**

**Positionally**

**Experientially**

**Eph. 5:26, “that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,**

**Eph. 5:26, “That He might set her apart and cleanse [purify] her by the washing of water by the word.”**

# ETERNAL REALITIES

# TEMPORAL REALITIES

**“POSITIONAL TRUTH”**

**Acts 16:31**



**IN CHRIST**

**Baptism by the  
Holy Spirit**

**“set apart”  
legally,  
new creation**

**Ephesians 2:22**

**We are a new creation,  
New man,  
New building,  
New Temple,  
New Body**

**Eph. 2:16, “and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.”**

**Eph. 2:19, “Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,**

**Eph. 2:20, “because you were built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,**

**Eph. 2:21, “in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,**

**Eph. 2:22, “in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”**

# ETERNAL REALITIES

# TEMPORAL REALITIES

“POSITIONAL TRUTH”



ACTS 16:31



2 Cor. 5:17, “Therefore, if anyone *is in Christ*, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

**Rom. 15:16, “that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.” [NKJV]**

**ἁγιάζω *hagiazō* perfect passive causal participle**

**fem sing nom**

**“to be set apart to the service of God”**

**Perfect tense: emphasizes a completed action in the past.**

**Here the emphasis is on the present reality of a past completed action.**

**Passive voice: the believer receives the action of the verb, the believer does not perform the action on himself. It is all the work of God the Holy Spirit.**

**Participle: adverbial participle of cause**

**Rom. 15:16, “that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, by ministering the gospel of God, for the purpose that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, because they have already been set apart to the service of God by means of the Holy Spirit.” [RD]**

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**Participle: adverbial participle of cause**

**John 17:17–19, “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your Word is truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.” [NKJV]**

**John 17:17–19, “Set them for serving you by means of Your truth. Your Word is truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I set Myself apart, that they also may be set apart by means of the truth.” [RD]**

**Being set apart, that is being positionally sanctified, is done by the Holy Spirit and by the Word of God.**

**We are positionally set apart to the service of God at the instant of salvation.**

**This is our new legal position, our new identity, and as such we have a new code of conduct to go along with our new identity.**

# THREE STAGES OF SALVATION

**PHASE  
ONE**

**Justification**

**PHASE  
Two**

**Spiritual  
Life**

**PHASE  
THREE**

**Glorification**

**Positional  
Sanctification**

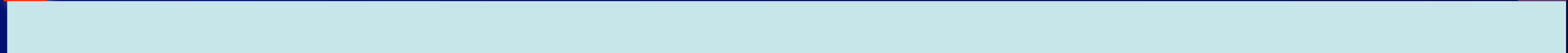
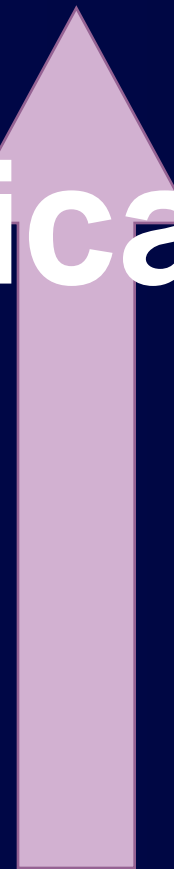
**Set apart  
eternally to God**

**Experiential  
Sanctification**

**Experientially living  
out our set-apart service**

**Ultimate  
Sanctification**

**Eternally set  
apart with God**



**Eph. 5:26, “that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,” [NKJV]**

**Eph. 5:26, “That He might set her apart and cleanse [purify] her by means of the washing of water by means of the spoken word/message.”**

**Eph. 5:26, “That He might set her apart by cleansing her  
[purify her] by the washing of water by the word.” [RD]**

**καθαρίζω *katharizō***

**aorist act participle masc**

**sing nom**

**Adverbial participle of**

**means**

**to cleanse, to purify from**

**sin**

**Ezek. 16:6**, “ ‘And when I passed by you and saw you struggling in your own blood, I said to you in your blood, “Live!” Yes, I said to you in your blood, “Live!”’ ”

**Ezek. 16:7**, “ ‘I made you thrive like a plant in the field; and you grew, matured, and became very beautiful. Your breasts were formed, your hair grew, but you were naked and bare.’ ”

**Ezek. 16:8**, “ ‘When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time was the time of love; so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness. Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine,’ says the Lord GOD.’ ”

**Ezek. 16:9**, “ ‘Then I washed you in water; yes, I thoroughly washed off your blood, and I anointed you with oil.’ ”

**Eph. 5:26, “That He might set her apart by cleansing her [spiritually purify] her by the washing of water by the word.”**

**λουτρόν *loutrón***

**washing, as in a full body bath as opposed to a partial washing of the hands, or feet, or face**

**καθαρίζω *katharizō***

**aorist act participle masc  
sing nom  
to cleanse, to purify from  
sin: i.e., to be forgiven**

**John 13:3, “Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God,**

**John 13:4, “rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself.**

**John 13:5, “After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash [*nipto*, partial washing] the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.**

**John 13:6, “Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, are You washing [*nipto*, partial washing] my feet?’ ”**

**John 13:7, “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.’ ”**

**John 13:8, “Peter said to Him, ‘You shall never wash [*nipto*, partial washing] my feet!’ Jesus answered him, ‘If I do not wash [*nipto*, partial washing] you, you have no inheritance with Me.’**

**John 13:9, “Simon Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!’**

**John 13:10, “Jesus said to him, ‘He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.’ ”**

**καθαρός *katharos* masc  
sing nom spiritually or  
ritually cleansed from  
sin, i.e., forgiven**

**λουτρόν *loutrón* washing,  
as in a full body bath as  
opposed to a partial  
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aorist act participle masc  
sing nom  
to cleanse, to purify from  
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**Titus 3:5, “not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration even renewing from the Holy Spirit,”**

*λουτρόν **loutrón***

**washing, as in a full body bath as opposed to a partial washing of the hands, or feet, or face**

**Eph. 5:26, “That He might set her apart and cleanse [purify] her by the washing of water by the word.”**

**ῥῆμα *hrēma* neut sing dat  
spoken word, message.  
Here, the message of the  
gospel.**

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