

Be Entirely Sanctified

by James Keaton

James Keaton emphasizes the importance and possibility of entire sanctification for every believer through a relationship with God and the Holy Spirit.

Duration: 42:14

Scripture: Matthew 5:6, John 14:16

Topics: "Holy Spirit", "Sanctification"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker shares a personal story about his children making demands on his time and resources. Initially, he takes a firm stance and refuses to fulfill their requests. However, he realizes that his children are hurt and disappointed by his response. He then hears the voice of the Holy Spirit, reminding him of how God works. The speaker relates this to a story of a man who gives a woman \$10, asks for it back, and then gives her a larger sum of money. The message is that God wants us to use the talents, resources, and blessings He has given us, and if we are obedient and ask Him, He will provide even more.

Transcript

In our churches we don't often write our prayers, though I can't find anywhere where it would be a sin. Our Lord prayed and they wrote it down. And I would like to read part of his prayer as found in John chapter 17.

It's actually called the High Priestly Prayer. I'm not going to read it all, though I am going to read a significant portion of this prayer, and then I'm going to do like a mailman sometimes does. I'm going to go out to the far end of my route and work my way back to it.

John 17, these words spake Jesus and lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, Father, the hour has come, glorify thy son, that thy son also may glorify thee. As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.

I have glorified thee on the earth. I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self, with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world. Thine they were, and thou gavest them me, and they have kept thy word. Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou

hast given me are of thee.

For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. I pray for them. I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me, for they are thine.

And all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one as we are.

While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name. Those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition that the scripture might be fulfilled. And now I come to thee, and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

I have given them thy word, and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word. Let us pray. Father, thank you for allowing us to have the word of God and the prayer of thy Son before us tonight.

Speak to our hearts, honor the purpose that you have in our gathering. May it be fulfilled. I pray that you would uplift every heart that is here, uplift everyone in faith.

May the saints, Lord, be uplifted to believe you and follow you more closely. And may the unsaved, may their faith reach out and touch the Lord, believing tonight that you will forgive their sins and make them also a child of God, we pray in Jesus' name, amen. Amen.

We live in a day when in the church everybody wants to be full of the Spirit, but no one seems to want to be filled with the Spirit. I am convinced it is God's will that every believer be entirely sanctified, filled with the Spirit of God. When I was just about ten years of age, I was born in 1945, so it would have been in 1955.

It was on a Friday evening and our family was doing an exciting thing we did every Friday evening. We went to town to get groceries. I know it doesn't sound very exciting to this generation, but to us it was.

And since it was a pretty evening, the weather was nice, while Mother shopped, my stepfather and I went strolling to do some window shopping down past the Western Auto and a few places like that. And we walked past the Buick dealership. It was the first time we had seen the new 1955 Buick.

It had just come out. My, it was beautiful. There was a blue one sitting in the showroom.

If you're antique enough to remember such an automobile, you will remember that in 1955 they changed the Buick. They changed the front end, they changed the back end, they changed the interior, they changed the lines. They just changed about everything there was to the Buick automobile in 1955, and it was beautiful.

My stepfather happened to like the Buick car, and so we stepped into the showroom and we walked around and rubbed it gently and stuck our head in the window and admired the dash. And we looked at the lines, we oohed and awed. And I, being only ten years old, I could tell very quickly that he liked it, so I got right down to business.

I stepped back and looked at him and asked the question, can we get one? I'll not forget his answer. He couldn't wipe the smile off his face, he was so pleased with what he was seeing. But he said, well, I think that's the nicest car I've ever seen, but I don't guess I could ever have anything quite that nice.

That's just a human interest story, but of course I told it for a reason. I know a lot of people who spend a lot of time around the showroom of holiness. They admire it, they ooh and they awe, they acknowledge it's about the most wonderful thing they've ever heard of in this world, and they think that it's just superb.

But like my stepfather, they come to a conclusion that they guess they could never have anything quite that nice. And so they live their life in defeat. They live in their life, they believe in the doctrine, they go to holiness camp meetings, they attend a holiness church, they like the holiness preachers, they like the song of the holiness singers, they just like it.

But yet they live and die without ever believing that they can truly be sanctified and have this experience of holiness in their heart and life. So I've come tonight to give you seven reasons why I am convinced every believer can be entirely sanctified. There are plenty more, I'm sure, but these are the seven the Lord helped me to think of and I want to share them with you.

The first reason I am convinced that every believer can be sanctified holy is because the believer is hungry and thirsty after righteousness. Amen. The saved person wants all of God they can get.

They don't want to see how sinful they can become. They don't want to go back to the old life. They want God.

They want righteousness. They are hungry and they are thirsty after righteousness, and lo and behold, I read in Matthew, chapter 5, in the great Sermon on the Mount, where the Lord said, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled." Praise God! So that convinces me that every believer can be entirely sanctified. I was in a southern state preaching a revival in a beautiful little wooden church beside the road, and it was a nice church.

The people were so kind to me, and they had in their origin many years before had had a holiness pastor who had founded the church, and they had been a holiness church, and the message of holiness had been preached. But he had died, other pastors had come and gone and died, and things had changed, and now in the process of time, over the years, they have forgotten about the message of holiness and the people who now grace the pews of that beautiful little country church knew nothing about it at all. All of the other generation were gone, and as I was there preaching that revival meeting, I've been there numbers of times since, but as I was preaching that revival meeting, the Lord laid on my heart to preach to them and teach them again about the beautiful message and doctrine of holiness, of entire sanctification.

All week we worked with that subject. Friday night came. After the service on Friday evening, I stood by the pastor at the door.

Folks were leaving. We were shaking their hands when one of his leading members, a member of the board and the Sunday school superintendent, lingered behind. And when he came by, he had a troubled

look, a very troubled look.

And as he shook our hands, he said, I need to talk to you two fellows. Okay. We slipped into a little room, and he started pacing back and forth, wringing his hands.

And the pastor said, Junior, what could the problem be? And I'll borrow his own words. He said, I blew it today. I really dropped the ball.

I really blew it today. Well, what did you do? And he told us, he being a rather large contractor, he said, I went out on the job this morning. He said, gathered the men around me, give them some instruction of what we were going to be doing for the day.

And he said, one of the men that works for me really didn't like what he was told he would be doing, and he got so angry, said he started cursing me. And said he cursed me and cursed me, and he got right up in my face and cursed me. And as he was, he was sort of spitting on me.

And he said, I stood there, and I took it, and I took it. And then he said, just all of a sudden, I decked him. He said, and I jumped right on top of him.

And he said, the guys pulled me off, and I felt so bad. And he said, I told the man I was sorry. And I told the men I was sorry for what I'd done.

And he said, I got in my pickup truck and drove off the job to a private place. And he said, I told God how sorry I was for what I'd done. He said, but I've had an awful, awful day.

He said, I blew it today. I dropped the ball. I've been trying to be a Christian in front of them, and look what it did.

He said, is there any hope for anybody like me? I said, do you remember what we've been preaching this week? He said, been on my mind all day long. He said, what do I have to do to get that? And I told him, and I said, we could get right down on our knees now. And he headed for his knees.

And I started to get down with him, but the pastor said, wait a minute, wait a minute, wait a minute, hold it, hold it, hold it, hold it. He looked at me, and he said, now look, if you're going to pray for him to be sanctified, he said, you're going to pray for me, too, because I need as bad as he does. And then a little while, we came out of that Sunday school room with the pastor and the Sunday school superintendent freshly and newly sanctified, holy.

Why did that happen? Because they were hungering and thirsting after righteousness. They had not hardened their hearts. They weren't fighting it.

They were hungry. And the Bible says, blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled. Hallelujah.

Reason number two, I am convinced God will sanctify every believer, because God is greater than any earthly father. You say that doesn't make much sense yet. Well, let me tell you about it.

You understand that our Lord one day talked to the disciples and some men, and he said, now, which one of you, if your child would ask for bread, you'd give them a stone? Or if they should ask for a fish, you would give them a serpent? Or if they should ask for an egg, you would give them a scorpion? Which one

of you fellows would do that? And they say, no, no, no, not me, not me. And then he said, if you, being evil or earthly, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that obey him? Hallelujah. To them that ask him, to them that love him.

Hallelujah. And God is greater than any earthly father. I remember coming home from the office that evening.

We had nine children. Eight of them were still home. Only one was married.

And when I got home from the office at about 4 o'clock in the evening, five of them happened to be there at the time. And I walked in, and Becky, now a missionary in the Philippines, but she was just a teenage girl then. And she spoke up and said, oh, daddy, I'm going to your home.

I need to be at the library at 5 o'clock, and I need you to take me. And she had no sooner than spoken her desire until one of the boys spoke up, oh, yes, dad, and I need \$9 tonight. And as soon as he was finished, a third one made his request known.

Before it was over, each of the five had made some demand, either on my time or my resources. I'm a bottom line kind of a guy. I said, here's where I was going.

Nobody's going anywhere, and nobody's getting anything. Case closed. I thought I'd really handled it.

And then I saw they looked so hurt and so disappointed, and I thought I'd better defend my rash position. So I started telling them again, and then I saw they were hurt all the more. And I said, Becky, this is your fault.

I said, you started this. And I saw she was more hurt than ever. And then it took me that long to hear the voice of the spirit, I guess.

But while I was yakking, and don't look so innocent, guys. Sometimes you yak, too. The Holy Spirit got through to me.

And I said, Becky, come here, honey. And I put an arm around her and hugged her, and I said, no, honey, it's not your fault. It's my fault.

I'm so sorry. You need to be at the library at 5. Well, I believe we can make it. Buddy, you need \$9? Well, I guess dad can help you one more time.

And I didn't stop until I'd given each of them everything they had asked for. I hear some grisly old grandpa saying, I wouldn't have done it. That's what's wrong with this world now.

I know you wouldn't have. But things might have turned out a whole lot better if you had. Maybe I'd better move on quickly.

And if I, being earthly, desire to give good gifts unto my children, how much more will the Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that love Him? Therefore, I am convinced that every believer can be entirely sanctified because God is greater than any earthly father. Reason number three, I am convinced God will sanctify every believer because the Heavenly Father wants His children to be like Himself. Amen.

You've read it in 1 Peter 1, verse 15. Be ye holy. Why, Lord? Because I'm holy.

Because I am holy. I don't know if you've caught on yet or not, but this is the greatest compliment and the most assuring thing the Lord could say. He is saying, I am claiming you so fully and so completely as my child that I want you to be like me.

Someone came to me some time ago, dear little lady, and she said, I heard one of your boys preach the other night. She said, if I would have closed my eyes, I wouldn't have known if I was listening to him or if I was listening to you. You sound just alike.

And I liked it. I did. I really liked it because he's my boy.

Now, I was with him over the holiday, and I said, now, boys, all of you can preach better than I can, but it just takes all of you to do it. We want our children to be like us. It's OK.

If you're a bricklayer, you may want your son to be an astronaut. I don't know, but you still like it when you see him pick up the trowel and dip it in the mortar and lay a nice bead and a nice straight row of brick. You say, that's my boy.

A chip off the old block. Ah, you're happy because that's your son, and you're glad he's like you. Every mother finds her heart warmed when someone speaks of that little girl and says she has the same kind, sweet traits of her mother.

You like it, don't you, ma'am? And it's OK. That's OK. It's not sin.

It's not carnal, necessarily. God's that way. God said, you're my child, and I want you to be like me.

Be holy, for I am holy, saith the Lord. Glory to God. Somebody says, but that's impossible.

That is absolutely impossible. We could not be like God. Do you understand who God is? God is the eternal, sovereign one who, with his creative fingertips, plunged planets into existence and said, let there be light, and there is.

And he created man and animals and everything. We can't be like God. Well, let's talk about it just for a moment, if you will.

I'll tell you, let's talk about it this way. Let's go to the Gulf of Mexico real quick. Here we are.

Now walk right down to the water at the Gulf of Mexico. Bend over and stick your finger in the gulf. Hold your finger up, and a little drop of water forms on the tip of your finger.

Now get a slide, and put it on a little glass slide, and put it under a microscope. Now follow me. Now we're going to pick up the entire Gulf of Mexico, and we're going to put it under a great big microscope, and we're going to look at it.

And now we're going to go back and look at the little drop of water. Oh, guess what? They're just alike under the microscope. Now the Gulf can do things a little drop of water can't do.

The Gulf can sail the ships. It can house the fish. It can wear white caps.

It can wash the shoreline. It can do all those things, and the poor little drop of water can't do it. But under the microscope, they're just alike.

And God said, Be ye holy, for I am holy. I cannot create worlds. I cannot speak light or life into existence.

I cannot save a soul, sanctify a believer, or heal a body. But God can. But I do know this, that the sanctified soul under heaven's microscope is like unto the Father.

Hallelujah! And that's what he's asking for. Be ye holy, for I am holy, saith the Lord. And since God wants his children to be like him in holiness, he surely will sanctify every believer.

Reason number four, I believe God will sanctify every believer because the believer is obedient, is obedient. If you are a saved person, if you are a child of God, you're not straining at the reins. You're not trying to break out.

You're not wanting to go do your own thing. You're wanting to obey God. There may be a fighting spirit within you that is not always easily subdued.

The carnal nature is there and gives you battles. But the real you, what you want to do, you want to be obedient unto God. And I read in chapter 5 of the book of Acts and verse 32, he giveth the Holy Spirit to them that obey him.

Hallelujah! Isn't that wonderful? And the believer is obedient. Mr. Dobbs, on the Ford dealership in Memphis, Tennessee, large dealership. And one day he took a new car off the lot his wife and daughter and a young lady that worked in their home.

And they went to the Carolina coast for a little vacation. He was a Christian man. They enjoyed a few days at the coast and then headed back to West Tennessee.

They decided not to go the main route, but for vacation purposes, a drive through the winding mountains. And as they were winding their way slowly through the mountain passes, they saw up ahead in the mountains there was a terrible, terrible storm. There was lightning and dark clouds, and they could see it was raining hard.

And it took them a while, but eventually they found they were in the storm. And as they drove along, wipers working as hard as they could, he looked ahead and saw some people walking. And he thought, boy, why are they out in this? He noticed it was a man and a woman and a couple of children.

They didn't have hats or umbrellas or raincoats or boots. They were not ready for such weather. And he couldn't resist.

He pulled alongside, rolled the window down just a bit and called to them. Is everything okay? And then he saw the woman was crying and she was a spokesman for the family. And she said, no, sir.

A while ago, lightning struck our little log home up here in the mountains and it's gone. We've lost everything. And we're walking around to where some other people live.

Maybe we can stay there until we can make some arrangements. He felt sorry for them, and he reached in his pocket and got a \$10 bill and stuck it out that little window crack and gave it to them. They thanked him and he rolled the window up and drove off.

But he didn't go far. And he pulled off beside the road and got out his billful and took out every dollar he had in cash, around \$200. And he asked his wife, do you have any money? She had about 50.

And he took also what his daughter and the other young lady had and put it all together. And he turned around and he went back and there they were still walking. And he pulled up beside them again.

And they were so happy to see the man who had been kind to them a few moments ago. And he asked the lady, he said, do you still have that \$10 bill I gave you? She said, oh, yes, sir. He said, give it back.

And she looked disappointed, but she reached in her shirt or blouse pocket and got it out and handed it back to him obediently. And when she did, he took it and he got that big wad of money out and he put the \$10 bill with it and just gave it all back to him. And that's how the Lord works.

He comes to you and me and he says, do you still have that talent I gave you? Do you still have that family I gave you? Do you still have that education I gave you? Do you still have the money I gave you? Do you still have everything I gave you? Yes, Lord. And he said, give it back. Give it back.

And some object. He says, give me your family. Give it back to me.

And someone might say, Lord, Lord, my family. I didn't have much of a family growing up. And now I love my family so much.

And Lord, how could I surrender my... Give it back. And to another, he says, give me the job. Lord, Lord, you know, I've worked so hard to get where I am.

And, you know, I trained so long and I worked so hard to get up in the job that I am. And Lord, it means so. And he said, give it back.

Give it to me. He asked someone for their home, their beautiful home. He asked someone else for their money.

Someone else for their education. But I want you to know something. When we surrender all, obediently and say, Lord, you may have my family.

I put it on the altar. You may have my job. I put it on the altar.

You may have my money. You may have my house. You may have my reputation, my education.

Lord, I put it all on the altar. I surrender all of it. He gives the Holy Spirit to them that obey him.

Hallelujah. And then he says, now use the education. Now love your family and take care of it for it's a gift for me and it belongs to me.

And I'm aloning it to you. Everything you have belongs to the Lord. And he allows us to use it.

But he said, keep it surrendered to me. And he gives the Holy Spirit to them that obey him. Reason number five, I am convinced God will sanctify every believer.

It is God's design from the beginning of time that the New Testament church and the New Testament believer be spirit filled. Read your Bible. It doesn't matter if you're a Presbyterian or a Methodist or whatever you are.

It doesn't matter. Just read your Bible. And you'll understand very quickly that he wanted the New Testament church to be filled with the spirit.

Listen as the apostle speaks of the church at Ephesus. Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believe? And again and again, he lets us know that he wants us to be filled with his spirit. He wants the New Testament church to be a spirit filled church.

He does not want your church to be dead and cold and nominal and lukewarm. No, indeed, he wants your church to be spirit filled. He does not want you as a Christian to be always low in spirit, always of a grumbling spirit, always discouraged, always depressed, always worrying.

No, he wants you to be a spirit filled Christian. Hallelujah. John the Baptist recognized this and he declared it to those who were there.

And he said, I indeed baptize you with water, but there is one who comes after me whose shoes I'm not worried to carry. And he said, when he is come, he will baptize you with the Holy Ghost and fire. Hallelujah.

Amen. Others recognized it. Jesus told us about it.

His disciples got long faced and melancholy one day because he talked about leaving. And he said, no, man, no, no, no, you mustn't. He said, it is expedient.

It is necessary for you that I go away. For if I go not away, the comforter of the Holy Spirit will not come. And he knew it was the will of God that the Holy Spirit come and fill their lives.

Hallelujah. He's called the apostle Paul told the church, be not drunk with wine. Where is it? Where is an excess, but be filled with the spirit.

Reason number six, why I am convinced our Lord will sanctify every believer. Because Christ suffered without the gate and shed his own blood that he might sanctify us according to Hebrews chapter 13 and verse 12, Christ paid such a tremendous, tremendous price that you and I be sanctified holy when our oldest son, the first to get his own car did so it was quite a scenario. He bought a car that he fell in love with and it wasn't much of a car and he brought it home and half the time it wouldn't start.

It just wouldn't run. We push started it. We jump started it.

And I think a few times he tried to kickstart it. The neighbor surely thought it had grown to the front bumper of my car because off of the street, I was shoving it. I got tired of it.

And one day I called a friend who was a real mechanic and I said, I want you to come by the house and look at this car. And he came and I said, look that thing over and tell me, tell me what I need to do with that car. The hood was up, the trunk was up, the plugs were out, this, that, and the other.

He checked compression. He did all kinds of things. And I still remember when he backed away and got a big red rag out of his hip pocket and wiped his hands a little, wiped the edge of the hood and slammed it down, wiped his hands some more.

I said, okay, tell me what's the deal? What's the word? And he gave me two words. He looked at me and said, junk it. I thought it was a pretty good idea.

And I was ready to make his funeral arrangements. But my son said, Dad, I can't junk that car. Why not? The thing won't run.

Dad, Dad, I can't junk that car. And when I saw how serious he was, I stopped him and got right in front of him where we could have an eye-to-eye talk. And I said, son, tell me why.

It sort of dropped his head. And he said, Dad, he said, I paid too much for it and it means too much to me. I said, okay, then we're going to make it run.

I said, if we have to buy a new engine, it doesn't matter. Whatever we have to do, son, we'll make it run. That's how you feel about it.

And that's exactly what we did. And I wouldn't be surprised if there wasn't a time when the devil, like it was in the days of Job, stood before the Lord and my name came up. And the devil probably had a recommendation about me.

And he said, junking is no good. And it might have been the best thing to do by conventional wisdom. But the son, hallelujah, the son stepped in front of the father and said, Father, we can't do that.

And he lifted a nail-scarred hand and said, I paid too much for him and he means too much to me. And the father said, then sanctify fully. We'll make him work.

We'll make him run. We'll put a new heart in him if we have to. Because he will glorify and sanctify his children.

And hallelujah, that's exactly what he is saying about you tonight. He will put a new heart within you. God will sanctify every believer because Jesus paid too much for you and you mean too much to him.

His hands bear scars. His side was riven. There are scars in the tender flesh of his forehead and in his feet, all because he suffered without the gate to sanctify you with his own blood.

I am convinced that God will sanctify every believer. Praise the Lord. You don't have to just wander around in the showroom and say how nice it is.

You can have it. Praise God. But wait, I told you there were seven reasons.

So there's one more and it takes us back to the scripture I read now. I told you I'd get there. I am convinced God will sanctify every believer because Jesus, God's son, prayed for the believer's sanctification.

You read it there in the passage where our Lord was praying and he prayed for the disciple to be sanctified. But then he came down to verse 20 and he said, Neither pray I for these alone, but I also pray for them which shall believe because of the word. He was talking about then.

He was talking about now. We are believers because we have heard the word, because we have obeyed the word. And Jesus has prayed for you and prayed for me that I and you would be sanctified wholly.

And therefore, when Jesus prays, God answers prayer. Hallelujah. We're all the product of somebody having prayed.

My mother prayed for me every day that she lived and was conscious. My father was killed one day or one week to the day before I was born. He was killed defending France and is now buried in France.

But he was killed one week before I was born. And I came into this world with a grieving mother because she had just received word that her husband was a war fatality. And she turned all of her love and affection on her new baby and spoiled me rotten.

But she did pray for me. A few years ago, when I was to go to Hope Sound to preach the camp meeting there for the first time, I was there several times. But the first time I was preparing to go to preach the Hope Sound camp meeting.

When I got word and they said, if you want to see your mother alive, you'd better come. So I drove eight hours to be by her side. And I went into her sick room and she was lying there, apparently fading away.

And I took both of her hands and mine and I talked and I said, Mama, I want to tell you how much I love you. And I leaned over and I kissed her on this cheek and I kissed her on this cheek. And I said, but Mama, I want to tell you how much I appreciate you telling me about Jesus.

And I appreciate so much the fact that you pray for me every day. And when I stand in the pulpit anywhere around the world and the going's a little tough and the devil's fighting, I knew you were praying and it helped me to get through. And I said, Mama, it's awfully selfish of me.

I said, but I'm going down to Florida to preach in a camp meeting. The crowds will be pretty big, two, three thousand. And I said, I know you're awfully sick, Mama, but I need you to pray for me through this.

One more camp meeting. And an old sparkle came back in her eye. I'll never forget, she looked up with a weak voice and she said, Sonny boy, you run along and preach.

I'll be here praying for you. And I went and preached and she started getting better and lived another seven years. Oh, thank God for a mother's prayer.

I want to tell you about a man also that prayed for me. Oh, he was he was quite a man of prayer. Oh, he prayed for me and I appreciate you so much.

Prayed such beautiful prayers. But a terrible thing happened to him. He was murdered.

But on the third day, he walked out of the grave and ascended to the side of his father and he's still praying for me. Hallelujah. And he's still praying for you.

For Jesus prayed for you and prayed for me. He was slain, but he rose again and ascended to the right hand of the Father and is making intercession for you and for me tonight. And I'm confident that he's praying now as he prayed then.

Father, sanctify them through the truth. Thy word is truth. Sanctify them, Father.

And if Jesus is praying, God is hearing and God is going to answer. And if the devil has told anybody here that you cannot be sanctified, if the devil has told anybody here that it's just like that new Buick that dad said he couldn't have, I want you to know the devil is a liar and the Lord God will sanctify every believer. If you will surrender your life completely and fully to him and desire him and his ways and his fullness more than anything else in the world, God will sanctify you this very moment if you will obey him.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Let me close with one more.

What I think is a beautiful truth from the Bible. There is a verse of scripture. I love it.

If I preach from a little bit, I'd enjoy it. There's a chance you might enjoy it, too. It's a verse of scripture that goes something like this.

Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world. My, couldn't we have a good time if we preach from that a little while? But then after we had shouted and preached and prayed and hallelujahed around, then we'd go home and pillow our head when the lights were turned out and say, but what does that mean? Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world. What could that possibly mean? Let me tell you what it means.

In order to understand that verse, we have to go back a long, long way when an angel of light by the name of Lucifer rose up against God and would take over the throne. And he was cast out of heaven. And as he was cast out of heaven with his thieving arm, he took a third of the angels with him.

And they became fallen angels, sometimes called demons. And he became Satan. And now when Satan wants to do his best or his worst for his followers, he says, this is what I'll do.

I'll fill them with fallen angels. I'll fill them with demons. And you and I shudder at the very thought of it.

It's so horrible. But let me tell you, when our God wants to do his best for his followers, he doesn't say, I will fill them with angels. He says, I'm going a little higher.

And he goes right into the Trinity. And he says, I'll fill my followers with the blessed Holy Spirit. And therefore, the sanctified can walk through this demon-possessed old world knowing greater is he that is in me than he that is in the world.

Hallelujah forever. Why would anybody not want to be sanctified holy and to be sanctified quickly? Stand with me, please.

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