

PURPOSE OF CONSECRATION

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The real purpose of consecration is that we would receive from God the inheritance that Jesus Christ has purchased for us with His own Blood. This inheritance includes righteousness, peace, health, protection, and all other blessings.

Consecration means to give ourselves over to God for His complete control and use; and God will take control of anyone who will fully consecrate their lives to Him. It has been found profitable to go back and reconsecrate our lives to God that we might more fully trust and receive from God the blessings that follow this important step.

Consecration places us in a position where God's Spirit can come in and take full possession of us. His Holy Spirit has been sent into this world to do this, will teach and train us, and show us everything we need to know concerning our inheritance. He will lead us into it.

Every blessing that God has for us depends upon it, including spirituality, health, finances, protection, and victory in the home-life; all have their foundation in and are the result of our consecration. One of the most important things about consecration is that not only our hope of Heaven depends upon it but especially our preparation for Eternal Life.

Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people, and consecration is the only means by which God can prepare us for Heaven. 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, *"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it."*

Consecration places us in a position for God to do this. An illustration of this would be—if I started out to walk into town, and someone offered me a ride, I would consecrate myself to that offer. I would give up my way of going and accept their way and go according to their plans.

That is what consecration would be because consecration means to give up our way of trying to get into Heaven, by our own holiness and piety, and accept God's righteousness and His way of getting there. We need to turn our lives over into God's hands completely for Him to do the work for us. He needs our full commitment just the same as a seamstress needs full access to the material to make an article of clothing.

There are many professing Christians who have failed in the same way—they have never turned their lives over into God's hands fully; for Him to take full possession of their lives and yet, they still expect God to take them to Heaven.

That is the reason why many are called but yet few are chosen, just as it is written; "straight is the gate and narrow is the way that leads unto life and few there be that find it." That is why Jesus said, "When the Son of man cometh, will he find faith on the earth?" And again, He said, "As it was in the days of Noah so shall it be in the days of the Son of man; as it was in the days of Lot; so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of man."

Consecration will enable God to give us a clean heart and the fullness of His Holy Spirit when we surrender to go His way without reservation. Then God begins to do what He has promised, in perfecting our Christian character and leading us into our full inheritance here and preparation for Eternal life.

How could one cook and prepare dinner before you went to the store to purchase the items you need? It is just as foolish to expect God to prepare and take us to Heaven when we don't give Him the opportunity.

In Ezekiel 36:25 we have a prophecy of what God will do in this gospel age, *"Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all*

your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you." Or "I will take out from you all dependence upon everything and every other person but myself." But, how can God do that if He never gets possession of the material?

We are given an example of this in Jeremiah 18:3, *"Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels."* As we continue to read, we find the potter was working on a certain article of which it became marred or broken in his hands. This master potter then took up the fragments and made a vessel to suit himself.

In the same way, when we take the position as clay in God's hands, He, the great efficient Potter, will show us that He is a master-workman and will fulfill in our lives what He has promised in His Word. He alone can do it, and our efforts will only hinder Him.

One important passage of scripture that tells us how to consecrate ourselves would be Romans 12:1, *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."*

That is the only reasonable and common-sense thing to do; to present our body as a living sacrifice, that is the most essential part of consecration—placing ourselves without reservation into God's hands for Him to do with us as He pleases. We are to give up our plan and way of doing, seeing, and meeting things, and accept God's will and plans in their entirety and be willing to live a scriptural life.

Some may think this is very difficult, but that is not true, for when we surrender our lives to God, He furnishes the power and desire to live according to His Word. We must keep this fact in our minds, that God does not expect us to obey His Word in our own strength because in back of every command and admonition, there is the entire power of God to enable us to live up to it.

The Bible is like a valve on the boiler of a steam engine. As you open the valve, that much power will come out. God's Word is like that valve,

the power of God is behind that Word, and the moment we accept, believe, and obey it, the power of God will come out at once and do what His Word says He will do.

When a person presents themselves as a living sacrifice to God, they become holy and acceptable to Him and God immediately accepts and takes possession of that which we present to Him.

“And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.” That means to have our nature changed. Transformed means to make into another form. We naturally have a way of viewing things, of thinking and acting directly opposite to God, and we are to be changed over to His way of doing things.

We are to be made over completely, just as God took clay and made Adam. We are clay in His hands, and He can make us over again, just as He did Adam in the beginning. God, first took nothing and made something in creation, and He can take nothing, if we are willing to be nothing in ourselves, and make something in recreating us for His glory and honor.

Romans 12:2, “*And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, (or your spiritual nature) that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*”

Consecration makes God our workman, and the moment we present our bodies a living sacrifice, He begins to work as a sculptor works on a piece of marble, or as a potter works with a piece of clay. God begins to mold and fashion a Christian character, which will make us an entirely new creature—conformed to His image.

Those who have done this, have come to know that “all things work together for good,” as we are told in Romans 8:28. Everything that touches us will be the chisel, plane, and pruning knife in God’s hands. When things are met as the Bible tells us, every cross word, every cross look, every loss, every gain, everything in the home or workplace, all will have one primary object in view, which is to conform our life into the very image of Jesus Christ.

We do not have to worry about what people say or do because when it reaches us, it has passed through God and therefore it can only be the most glorious and blessed thing, no matter how it may appear to us at first. Any spiteful act or persecution from another, if it is allowed of God to reach us and if it is met as His Word directs us, will be of great benefit and blessing to us and will take us to greater blessings and victories than we have prayed for in all the years of our Christian life.

1 Corinthians 3:9, “*For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.*” That tells us that we are God’s building as we become consecrated to Him; God will work within, shaping and forming us into the image of Christ. Ephesians 2:10, “*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works.*”

The result of consecration is found in Matthew 11:28-29, “*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Or I will lift every burden; I will give you peace; I will make you conqueror over sin; I will deliver you from the evil one and protect you for time and eternity; I will give you rest; I will take all trouble away’ I will give you a strong and well body and supply your every need and desire. This is all done when we consecrate ourselves to God and His will and Word.*

(Vs. 29-30), *Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.*

A yoke is a wooden beam normally used between a pair of oxen to enable them to pull together on a load when working in pairs. Jesus invites us to take His yoke upon us, and to be willing to go when He goes, stop when He stops, act in just the way that He would act. We have that power of choice; He invites us, He doesn’t compel us. He says, “Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me.” He then gives us the result, “Ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

We shall have complete rest, our spiritual life will be at rest, our body will be at rest, not oppressed

by Satan, our home will be peaceful and controlled by God, and every part of our life will be blessed and controlled by God’s power. God says, “You can rest and I will work, I will make things go right for you.” That is what God does when we take His yoke upon us. “Take my yoke upon you and learn of me.” That makes God our Teacher. There are many vital truths in God’s Word that are not known by the so-called Christian world of today, because they seek their knowledge from man and his books, instead of at the feet of Jesus Christ. That is the only place to learn; He is the great Teacher.

That is what Elihu told Job in Job 36:22, “*Behold, God exalteth by his power: who teacheth like him?*” There is no college professor, teacher, preacher, sermon, or booklet that could teach anyone like God can teach a soul. If you want to be led into all Truth and know what this Bible means and to become acquainted with God’s ways and teachings, there is only one school and one Teacher, and that is God, there is no one else who can teach in the proper way.

Consecration makes Jesus Christ our personal and private Tutor every moment of the day. He is at our side and is waiting to teach and develop our Christian characters into a full knowledge of His great Truth and salvation.

As we meet every circumstance that arises in our daily life as God says in His Word, that will result in the richest blessing of every kind here and in our preparation for Eternal Life.



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