

Christian Doctrine

Salvation (Part 6)

The Evidence of Salvation

The Product of a Changed Life

The moment of a person's conversion is just the beginning of what God has in store for their lives. A believer is God's "workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them" ([Eph. 2:10](#)). The evidence that someone is truly born again will be seen through a work called "sanctification."

God's Work of Sanctification

Sanctification is the process whereby a believer continually becomes more and more like Christ. This involves:

➤ ***A Maturity in the Faith***

Through a growing knowledge of God's Word, and the work of the Holy Spirit, a believer will develop:

- A growing awareness of sin in one's life and a desire to overcome it ([Rom. 6:1-2, 11-14](#); [II Cor. 7:1](#); [Heb. 12:1, 6](#)).
- A heart to submit to God in all areas of life ([Rom. 6:17-18](#)).

➤ ***A Desire to Make Choices That Honor God***

The inward change a person experiences at salvation will produce outward results.

- True faith in Christ will be evidenced by obedience to His will ([John 14:15](#); [I John 2:6](#); [3:3](#)).
- Faith without works is dead ([James 2:14-26](#)).

➤ ***A Pattern of Growth in the Christian Life***

Though perfection will not be achieved in this life ([Phil. 3:12](#)), spiritual growth should be evidenced by:

- Continually seeing less and less of the "old self" (who we were before salvation) and more and more of the "new self" (who we are as believers) ([Eph. 4:22-24](#)).
- Continually growing in godliness ([II Cor. 3:18](#)).

We must allow God to work this process of sanctification, knowing that through it He will accomplish His purpose for our lives ([Phil. 2:12-13](#); [Eph. 5:27](#)).