

A Biblical Overview of Progressive Sanctification

Read through the following passages along with the comments. Write a one-sentence response to each passage, applying the biblical principle(s) directly to your life-situation.

UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM FROM GOD'S POINT OF VIEW

Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. 9 "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

We are to look at life from God's perspective, His view, not from our way, experiences, ideas, opinions, what others say, the world's philosophy or its psychology. **The basic problem and the supreme challenge you will face in making Christ-honoring changes is dying to self.** The biblical perspective concerning 'self' is exactly opposite to what the wisdom of this world proclaims, [Lu. 9:23-24](#).

Luke 9:23-24 Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it.

Accordingly, to live biblically is to respond to life's challenges *in a manner that pleases and honors God, no longer pleasing and gratifying self,* [1 Cor. 3:19-20](#), [1 Jn. 2:15-17](#), [1 Cor. 2:12-13](#), [1 Jn. 2:20,27](#).

1 Corinthians 3:19-20 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight. As it is written: "He catches the wise in their craftiness"; 20 and again, "The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile."

1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For everything in the world-the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does-comes not from the Father but from the world. 17 The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

1 Corinthians 2:12-13 We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. 13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.

1 John 2:20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. 21 I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth. 27 As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit-just as it has taught you, remain in him.

HOPE [Heb. 6:18-20](#)

Hope is an anchor of the soul because it affects our mind and emotions. Christ within me, the Anointed One, breaks the yoke of life's pressures on me, and my job is to develop an awareness of ***Christ within me***, that in Him, I am more than a conqueror, never under but always over circumstances, no matter what I face in life.

Hebrews 6:18-20 God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. 19 We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, 20 where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.

To really believe this in the inner core of my being that all God's promises are mine depends upon my living in and by the living word of God, [John 16:33](#), [James 1:2-4](#).

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

James 1:2-4 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. 4 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

- [Eze. 36:26-27](#) - God gave me a heart of flesh, put His Spirit within me, and gives me power to carry out His commands.

Ezekiel 36:26-27 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. (from New International Version)

- [1Cor. 2:12-13](#) -Being a child of God, I receive revelation knowledge by the word of God in and through my human spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:12-13 We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. 13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. (from New International Version)

- [Rom. 8:28-29](#) -No matter what happens to me in life when I call upon God He will intervene in my life, He will reach into my experiences, redeem my past, and cause things to work out for my benefit.

Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. (from New International Version)

- [1 Cor. 10:13](#) -God is the One Who is faithful. As I put my faith in Him, He will bring me out successfully.

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

- [Heb. 4:15-16, 7:25](#) -All I have to do is ask boldly, and God's Grace is available to me, and the blood of Jesus Christ intercedes always, washing and cleansing from all sense of guilt and shame whether real or imaginary.

Hebrews 4:15-16 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are-yet was without sin. 16 Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Hebrews 7:25 Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

- [Rom. 6:3-6](#) -My old human nature and all my past has been buried with Christ when I was baptized into His death. At the burial I was also raised with Him into the newness of life, freed from the power of sin, and free now to do acts of righteousness.

Romans 6:3-6 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. 5 If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. 6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin.

CHANGE [Gen. 4:7](#), [Eph. 5:14-16](#)

We must choose to change, God will not do it for us. We cannot take living for granted, being careless or casual about our thinking, speaking and acting. God put us on this earth to actively replace evil with righteousness.

Genesis 4:7 If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it."

Ephesians 4:14-16 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

[Matt. 7:1-5](#) , [1 Cor. 11:28-31](#) You must judge yourself daily; are you walking in the Spirit, responding to life God's way? Then, and only then will you be in the position to help restore others.

Matthew 7:1-5 "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. 2 For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. 3 "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? 4 How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

1 Corinthians 11:28-31 A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. 29 For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. 30 That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. 31 But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment.

[Rom. 12:1-2](#) – Your total being belongs to the Lord for His use. This requires a total overhaul of your heart, separating yourself *from your past, and the world's system and influences in order to be conformed to the ways of the Lord.*

PRACTICAL LIVING – PUTTING HOLY LIVING INTO DAILY REALITY

[Ps. 1:1](#), [Jn. 15:5](#) - The enemy never stops working which compels us to be completely dependent upon the lord 24 hours a day, always conscious of His Presence, and to be actively involved in the pursuit of establishing His righteousness in all of life's endeavors.

Psalms 1:1 Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.

John 15:15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. (from New International Version)

[James 1:21-25](#) -*Through the meditation process, we change our inner man*, the root, and from the godly root, our thoughts, our speech, and our actions would then be consistent with God's standards. This continues until we experience the fullness of God and express His Presence wherever we go.

James 1:21-25 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. 22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it-he will be blessed in what he does.

Review your put-off – put-on list. Identify the one thing on that list that most often separates you from intimate fellowship with God. Begin writing a plan of action as to how you will “put-off” that sin.