

Think of it! Here are righteous ones who have been made perfect or complete! These are persons who were declared perfectly righteous on the basis of the credited

righteousness of Christ, but who were far from perfect in their character and conduct. But now (at the time of which the writer is speaking) they have been made perfect in character and conduct!

The Apostle John says “ Beloved now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.”

We will be like Him, the risen, ascended, glorified Christ, our Savior and Lord!

This glorification will include, not only deliverance from the remaining power and the very presence of sin, but also the redemption of our bodies, through resurrection or transformation. And it will include the production of such a righteous character and conduct in us as we have never known or experienced before!

Paul speaks of this third phase in Romans 8: 14-18, and Romans 8: 28-30.

Now we can get before us all of the Steps, phases and motifs related to sanctification.

Step One : Recognizing and acting upon our new relationship to innate sin -that of death.

Phase 1- We are completely dead to the mastery of innate sin.

Phase 2- We are to be progressively dying to the remaining power of innate sin.

Phase 3- We will one day be made completely dead to the power and very presence of innate sin.