

III. In which war, although the remaining corruption, for a time, may much prevail; yet, through the continual supply of strength from the sanctifying Spirit of Christ, the regenerate part doth overcome; and so the saints grow in grace, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

The Philadelphia Confession of 1689, Chapter 13, states:

1. They who are united to Christ, effectually called, and regenerated, having a new heart and a new spirit created in them, through the virtue of Christ's death and resurrection; are also (Acts 20:32; Rom. 6:5, 6) further sanctified, really, and personally, through the same virtue (John 17:17; Eph. 3:16-19; 1 Thess. 5:21-23) by his word and Spirit dwelling in them; (Rom. 6:14) the dominion of the whole body of sin is destroyed, (Gal. 5:24) and the several lusts thereof are more and more weakened and mortified; and they more and more quickened, and (Col. 1:11) strengthened in all saving graces, to the (2 Cor. 7:1; Heb. 12:14) practice of all true holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

2. This sanctification is (1 Thess. 5:23) throughout the whole man, yet imperfect (Rom. 7:18, 23) in this life; there abideth still some remnants of corruption in every part, whence ariseth a (Gal. 5:17; 1 Peter 2:11) continual, and irreconcilable war; the flesh lusting against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh.

3. In which war, although the remaining corruption for a time may much (Rom. 7:23) prevail, yet, through the continual supply of strength, from the sanctifying Spirit of Christ, the (Rom. 6:14) regenerate part doth overcome; and so the saints grow in grace, perfecting holiness in the fear of God, pressing after an (Eph. 4:15-16; 2 Cor. 3:18, 2 Cor. 7:1) heavenly life, in evangelical obedience to all the commands which Christ, as head and king, in his word hath prescribed to them.

The New Hampshire Baptist Confession (A.D. 1833), Article 10, states:

We believe that Sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means -- especially the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness, and prayer.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question 35 (What is sanctification?) is answered as follows:

Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.