

2. Subjective sanctification begins with regeneration

This connection of regeneration with sanctification is witnessed to by a number of writings:

A. H. Strong -- "Sanctification is that continuous operation of the Holy spirit, by which the holy disposition imparted in regeneration is maintained and strengthened."

-- Augustus Hopkins Strong, *Systematic Theology* (Philadelphia: The Judson Press, 1909), Volume Three, p. 869.

James Pendleton -- "Sanctification, according to the gospel and as the term is used in theology, is a precious reality, involving holiness of heart, which leads to holiness of life. It has its origin in regeneration, for regeneration is the beginning of holiness in the soul. I concede that unregenerate persons may possess amiable instincts and commendable social qualities, may illustrate what are called natural virtues; but I say with strongest emphasis that there is no spark of holiness in any unregenerate heart. Where holiness exists in its most incipient form it is a supernatural production, the effect of regeneration. Now, while regeneration implants the germ of holiness in the heart, sanctification is the unfolding of that germ. This being the case, it follows that regeneration and sanctification are essentially the same in nature, and may be regarded as two parts of the moral process by which depraved man is restored to the image of God."

-- James Madison Pendleton, *Christian Doctrines* (Philadelphia: The Judson Press, 1878), p. 299.

William G. T. Shedd -- "Sanctification results from the continuation of the agency of the Holy Spirit, after the act of regeneration."

-- Williams G. T. Shedd, *Dogmatic Theology* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, n. d.), Volume Two, p. 554.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism -- "Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God" (Question 35)

Regeneration is presented in Scripture under four major aspects: a new birth, a new life, a new creation, a new nature.

a. A new birth

(1) References to this aspect in Scripture

Titus 3:5 -- "He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit."