



SOUNDCAST

HOLINESS

PODCAST

EPISODE # 9- Saved To Be Holy (Wesleyan Arminian Scriptural Holiness)

SUMMARY:

God has a purpose for saving us which goes far beyond providing us with an eternal home in heaven. From the moment we receive Jesus Christ as our Savior, we have both a new standing with God and a new power in our lives. This lesson focuses on God's sanctifying grace at work in our lives after his saving grace has provided for our salvation. It presents the overwhelming NT call to believers to live holy lives. It outlines the Wesleyan Arminian doctrinal position that not only are our sins forgiven (justifying grace) but the power of sin can be broken in our lives by the Holy Spirit who lives in us (sanctifying grace).

KEY STATEMENTS:

“What happens when we are saved....at conversion?” First, there are **1) objective changes** (ie. changes that happen outside of ourselves in God's sight). These include justification (being 'counted as righteous'), redemption, forgiveness and adoption into God's family. The key objective change is that **our sins are forgiven and our relationship with God is restored.**

<https://salvationarmysoundcast.org/holiness/>

However, there are also **2) subjective changes** (ie. changes that take place within us). These include regeneration (being born spiritually) and initial sanctification as the Holy Spirit enters our life. The key subjective change is that **we have a new power and presence in our lives.**

The reality of the subjective changes and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives is that **the power of sin can be broken and we can live holy lives!** The Wesleyan revival brought a renewed emphasis upon this truth and the doctrine of holiness and entire sanctification. This is contrasted with the view of other Christians, including Calvinists, who do not believe that holiness (being in right relationship with God) is possible in this life.”

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

I. DISCUSS the following verses which clearly indicate that God has saved us so that we can live holy lives.

I Thessalonians 4:7

II Timothy 1:8-9

Ephesians 1:3-4

- a) In your experience, are Christians today aware of this call to holiness as a priority in their Christian living?
- b) Does the instructor's description of many Christians being “saved but stuck” resonate with your experience?

II. REFLECT upon the key Wesleyan teaching that the power of sin can be broken in a believer's life by fully surrendering to the Holy Spirit who lives in each of us.

a) **RECALL** the illustration used by the instructor of his young daughters' birthday card to him which was not faultless (ie. it was a Christmas card, there were backwards letters and it was signed above the message, not below) but which he described as **perfect!**

b) **DISCUSS** the statement that “a perfect heart makes a perfect Christian” in light of the birthday card illustration above.

c) **CONSIDER** John Wesley's repeated teaching that holiness is **not** attained by meeting an objective standard of behavior.

d) CONTRAST this with the Calvinist teaching that “Sanctification is not by surrender, but by divinely enabled toil and effort.” (Kevin De Young in The Hole in Our Holiness, Crossway, 2012, p.90)

III. MEDITATE on your own personal Christian walk with the Lord.

- a) Do you find the scriptural call to holiness intimidating? Why or why not?
- b) Is there anything that needs to be surrendered to God at this moment?
- c) Does the thought of being in right relationship with God appeal to you? encourage you?

IV. PRAY that you will walk with Christ intentionally. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any sin to you and trust Him to strengthen you to resist it. Thank God for His provision and for the gift of a perfect heart.