

The Three-Legged Stool

TEXT: 1 Peter 1:1-2

INTRODUCTION:

A. TWO SERMON TYPES – TOPICAL AND EXPOSITORY.

1. Topical deals with a subject → Several passages used.
2. Expository → Expose the meaning of a particular text.

B. EXPOSITORY SERMONS INVOLVE CONTEXT – BY DEFINITION.

1. Must see discussed topics as they are intended.
2. Some books set context in their salutation – often overlooked.
3. **1 Peter** salutation could be made into a series on various topics.
4. Introduces “sanctification” as central to faithfulness.

C. SANCTIFICATION IS A THREE-LEGGED STOOL.

I. FIRST, THE AUTHOR AND ITS READERS.

A. PETER – APOSTLE – WHAT IS REQUIRED?

1. Qualifications given by Peter (**Acts 1:21-22**). Matthias chosen to succeed Judas.
2. Apostles’ work:
 - a. Witnesses (**Acts 1:8; 2:32**).
 - b. What they themselves saw and heard (**1 John 1:3; 2 Peter 1:16**).
3. Peter not a pope (**Matthew 16:18**)
 - a. Rock – **petros** – foundation stone; Peter – **petra** – movable stone.
 - b. Peter uses this to illustrate (**1 Peter 2:4-5**).

B. READERS:

1. The elect – chosen.
 - a. Who is chosen? (**2:9**) – Race or nation, not individuals, but a class.
 - b. What is chosen (**Ephesians 1:4**) “Holy and without blemish...”
 - c. Believers – How? (**2 Thessalonians 2:13-14; John 6:44-45**) Called thru the Gospel.
 - d. Mourners (**Matthew 11:27-28; Matthew 5:3-4**).
 - e. According to God’s foreknowledge (**Ephesians 1:4-5; 1 Peter 1:20; Ephesians 3:10-11**).
2. Sojourners of the Dispersion.
 - a. This world is not my home (**1:17; 2:11; Philippians 3:20; 2 Corinthians 5:8**).
 - b. Used of dispersed Jews (**John 7:35**).
 - c. Christians (**James 1; Acts 8:1, 4**).

II. SANCTIFICATION OF THE SPIRIT.

A. SANCTIFY – **hagios** – HOLY, SET APART, SEPARATE, SPECIAL (**2:9**).

1. God claims us (**2:9; Romans 8:16-17; Galatians 4:6-7**).
2. God exalts us (**Ephesians 2:4-7**).
3. Special (**James 1:17-18**).

B. OF THE SPIRIT.

1. Called to this sanctification by the gospel (**2 Thessalonians 2:13-14**).
2. The Gospel demands sanctification.
 - a. The Gospel Commands (**2 Corinthians 17-18**).
 - b. The Gospel Explains (**Titus 2:11-12; 2 Timothy 3:16-17**). **THE SPIRIT’S ROLE.**

III. THE THREE LEGGED STOOL.

A. SANTIFICATION **FROM SIN** (**2 Corinthians 6:17-18**).

1. We are to be different (**Romans 12:2**) By being right.
2. Abstain from fleshly lust (**1 Peter 2:11-12; 1 John 2:15-17**).

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3. Commanded – Something we do, not done to us (**2 Corinthians 7:1**). **WE DO IT!**
4. What is typically thought of, but it is not all.

B. SEPARATION **UNTO OBEDIENCE**.

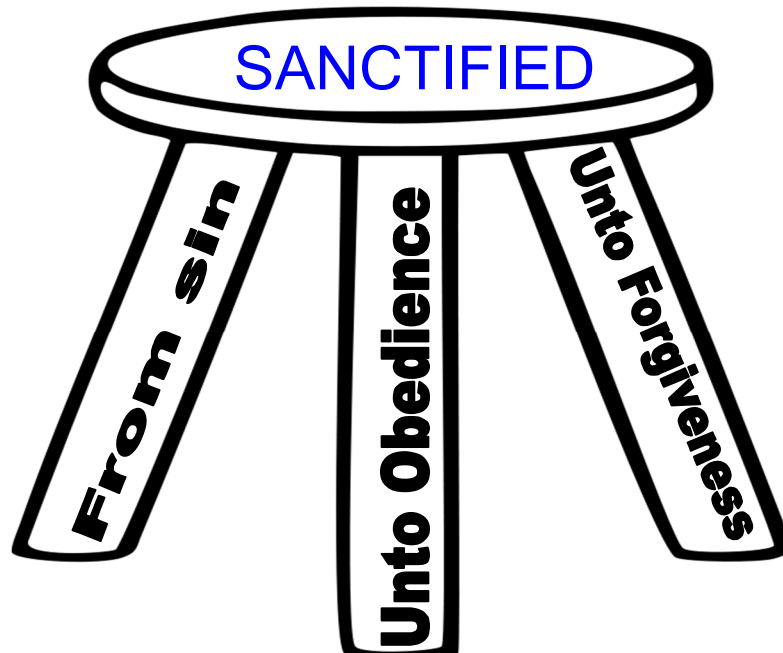
1. Obedience is necessary.
 - a. Sacrificial gifts are no substitute (**1 Samuel 15-22**).
 - b. Let God define “good works” (**Matthew 7:21-27**).
 - c. He has some designed for us (**Ephesians 2:10**; **2 Timothy 3:16-17**).
2. God has separated us for such (**Titus 2:13-14**).
3. Expected to be zealous and ready (**Titus 3:1**).

C. SEPARATED **UNTO SPRINKLING OF THE BLOOD**.

1. Reference to the high priest (**Leviticus 16**; **Hebrews 9:19-22**; **10:22**).
2. And to forgiveness obtained by Christ’s blood (**Hebrews 9:22**; **10:22**; **1 John 1:7**).
3. Separated to it.
 - a. Who? The elect – believers and sojourners (**1:1**).
 - b. Theirs exclusively (**Romans 8:1**; **1 John 1:6-7**; **2:1-2**).
 - c. In Christ? (**Romans 6:3**; **Galatians 3:26-27**).

D. **ONE SANCTIFICATION**.

1. Can’t have one without all three.
2. Without separation from sin and obedience there is no blood sprinkling. (**Hebrews 12:14**).



CONCLUSION: ARE YOU A SAINT?