

Doctrine Of Perfection

Introduction

Dear friends, it is my great joy and privilege to bring you this manual on the Doctrine of Perfection. For years this particular principle has been feared, misunderstood, and frankly not taught correctly. In Hebrews 6:1, Paul clearly states *"let us go on unto perfection."* Perfection in most of our minds speaks of something super-spiritual or acting like superman or something like that. This is not what God means by perfection nor what the Scriptures mean. It simply means "completion, going on to maturity." As a matter of fact, a good translation of Hebrews 6:1 is, *"let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding."* Therefore, perfection is all about maturing in Christ Jesus as Paul said in Colossians 1:28, *"that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus."* The Old Testament reads, *"Thou shalt be perfect with the Lord thy God"* (Deuteronomy 18:13). Jesus said in Matthew 5:48, *"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."* Over and over again we are admonished in Scripture and exhorted to reach this place of perfection.

The word perfect is found 99 times in the Bible, not to mention all the times the words "perfection" and "perfecting" appear. This should take away all of the spookiness, super-spirituality, and fear of error and false doctrine that surrounds this doctrine. We need to bow to the Word of God and not to what religion or men tell us. Perfection is a sound Biblical principle and is an attainable goal. In I Peter 5:10, the Lord makes it very clear that *"after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you."* The Lord wants to make us perfect. David prayed, *"The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me"* (Psalms 138:8). So is perfection an attainable goal? Absolutely. The way to perfection is through the grace of God, the Spirit of God, through study and devotion to the Word of God, and through an ongoing intimate relationship with the Lord Jesus.

God wants us to be perfect as He said to Abraham, *"walk before me, and be thou perfect"* (Genesis 17:1). Abraham was ninety nine years old at the time, one year short of a hundred. He had not yet reached perfection. However, God was admonishing him to go on. And this is what perfection is really about. It is about going on in God. It is about going on to completion. It is about allowing God to finish in our lives what He began. Somebody somewhere is going to reach perfection. I do not know about you, but I want to obtain all that God has spoken for me to have. I want to be everything God wants me to be.

My dear friends, as you begin to go through this particular manual, I have tried my best to exhaustively research the Scriptures concerning this principle. I hope that you will find that perfection is an attainable goal and it is something that God wants for every one of us for He said in Psalms 50:2, *"Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined."* Shining forth within a people is ultimately what God wants. He wants to inhabit a people so completely but in order to do that He has to perfect them. He has to fill every chamber with His goodness and glory and drive out the former occupants so we as His people can be true examples *"changed into the same image from glory to glory,"* even as He is perfect. God bless you as you study and read this manual, the last in our doctrinal series. I give all the praise and honor and glory to the Lord Jesus and to His precious Holy Spirit, the Spirit of revelation, and my Heavenly Father for anything found herein. My heart's prayer is that it helps you and that you, as Philippians 3:14 exhorts, keep pressing *"toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."*

Jesus is Precious,

Brother Sam

