

Introduction

1. God has always desired a sanctified people ([Eph. 3:9-11](#)).
 - a. "...which from the beginning of the world..." ([Eph. 3:9](#); cf. [Eph. 1:4](#)).
 - b. "...might be known by the church..." ([Eph. 3:10](#)).
 - c. "...the eternal purpose..." ([Eph. 3:11](#)).
2. God had a sanctified people under the Old Covenant in the children of Israel.
3. God has a sanctified people under the New Covenant in the church of Christ.
4. Accountability is critical to sanctification.

I. God's Sanctified People Then: The Children of Israel

1. The children of Israel were to obey God to be His special people ([Ex. 19:3-6](#)).
 - a. The children of Israel were to be three things to God:
 - i. A peculiar treasure i.e., valued property ([Ex. 19:5](#)).
 - ii. A kingdom of priests ([Ex. 19:6](#)).
 - iii. A holy nation ([Ex. 19:6](#)).
 - b. It required sanctification ([Ex. 19:10-15](#)).
2. The children of Israel received the covenant ([Ex. 20:1-2](#)).
 - a. The sabbath day was as a sign between God and the Israelites to set them apart from all other nations ([Ex. 20:8-11](#), [31:13-17](#); cf. [Dt. 5:12](#)).
 - b. The children of Israel were bound to the covenant ([Ex. 24:3-8](#)).
3. The children of Israel had food restrictions which set them apart from other nations ([Lev. 11](#), [20:24-26](#)).
4. Moses reminded the children of Israel before entering the promise land of their holiness.
 - a. Many of these requirements were to set them apart from the idolatrous nations surrounding them ([Dt. 7:1-6](#), [14:1-2](#), [21](#)).
 - b. The covenant and their obedience to it set them apart from the other nations ([Dt. 26:16-19](#); cf. [Dt. 28:9](#)).
 - c. Israel was holiness to the LORD ([Jer. 2:1-3](#)).

II. God's Sanctified People Now: The Church of Christ

1. The Israel of God today is the church ([Gal. 6:16](#); cf. [Rm. 2:28-29](#) with [Col. 2:11-12](#)).

- a. The church is a spiritual institution ([Rm. 2:28-29](#)).
- b. Circumcision takes place at baptism ([Col. 2:11-12](#)).
2. The New Testament uses the language of sanctification in reference to the church.
 - a. The church at Corinth ([1 Cor. 1:2](#); cf. [1 Cor. 6:11](#)).
 - b. The Ephesians ([Eph. 1:1, 5:25-27](#)).
 - c. The epistle to Titus ([Tt. 2:11-14](#)).
 - d. Peter's first epistle ([1 Pt. 2:5, 9](#)).

III. Keeping Each Other Accountable in Sanctification

1. Every one of us will give an account to God ([2 Cor. 5:10](#)).
 - a. He sees and knows all ([Heb. 4:13](#)).
2. We are our brother's keeper ([Gen. 4:8-9](#)).
 - a. keeper (*shamar* H8104 verb) "keep, have charge of" (BDB 1036).
 - b. Cain was the older brother ([Gen. 4:1-2](#)).
 - c. Consider Paul and Peter ([Gal. 2:11-21](#)).
3. Accepting correction is wise ([Pr. 9:8-10, 10:8](#); [Ps. 141:5](#)).
 - a. We should not despise the chastening of the LORD ([Pr. 3:11-12](#); cf. [Heb. 12:5-11](#)).

Conclusion

1. God has always desired a sanctified people.
2. Under the Old Covenant He had the children of Israel.
3. Under the New Covenant He has the church.
4. We should want to be what God desires us to be!
 - a. A sanctified people ([Mt. 5:13-16](#)).