

The Bible's Big Words

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake from multiple sources)

Introduction:

- A. "Never use a big word when a diminutive one will do."
 - 1. "I love using big words to sound smart. I mean utilizing gargantuan idioms to fabricate intelligence."
 - 2. "The finest words in the world are only vain sounds if you can't understand them."
 - 3. "Never use a large word for a small matter."
- B. The Bible uses some very large words to describe even larger matters
 - 1. Not talking about Bible names - Nebuchadnezzar, Mahershalalhashbaz
- C. These big words are also closely associated with our relationship with God
 - 1. Our salvation is supplied by God - Rom. 6:1-6; Eph. 1:7
 - 2. The Bible uses big words to describe each step of this process
 - 3. Mortification, justification, sanctification, and glorification (KJV)

I. MORTIFICATION

- A. We are commanded to address our sins by putting them to death.
 - 1. Col. 3:5; Rom. 8:13, 6:3, 7-13
- B. Christians put sinful behavior to death
- C. Mortification is an ongoing process; it's not like a vaccination - Rom. 7:22-25

II. JUSTIFICATION

- A. Justification is God's declaration that we are not guilty - Rom. 5:1, 3:28-30
- B. God accounts righteousness to us - Rom. 4:7-8
- C. Justification does not describe a change in our behavior as much as it describes the change in our standing before God - James 2:20-23

III. SANCTIFICATION

- A. Our union and association with Christ changes our character. Sanctification is the word that describes that change in character - 2Tim. 2:21
 - 1. It begins at the moment of our justification. It continues, in spite of our shortcomings, until the end of our lives - Heb. 10:10, 14
- B. Sanctification refers to being separated unto God.
 - 1. 1Thes. 4:3-5 - Our sanctification is the will of God.

IV. GLORIFICATION

- A. Every Christian is engaged in an ongoing battle with sin
 - 1. 1Cor. 9:24-27; 2Cor. 13:5-6
 - 2. Our victories should greatly outnumber our stumbles - 1John 2:1-2
- B. Mortification, justification, and sanctification will not be complete until the Judgment - Heb. 12:22-23
- C. Meanwhile, we groan, waiting for eternal redemption
 - 1. Rom. 8:22-25; 2Cor. 5:1-4
- D. Glorification will be the instantaneous completion of our victory over sin
 - 1. Rom. 8:17, 30; 1Cor. 15:51-55
- E. Remember that justification and glorification are God's works; mortification and sanctification are our responsibility