

Emmaus Essentials
The London Baptist Confession of 1689
Chapter 12 - Of Adoption
Chapter 13 - Of Sanctification
For Distribution the Week of 03/17/2014

Chapter Outline

Taken from *ST 535 Baptist Symbolics Chapter Outlines* by Dr. Renihan

Introduction

Remember, we are in the middle of the section (ch. 10-18) of the confession dealing with the doctrine of salvation. The first part of this section (ch. 10-13) deals with those aspects of salvation in which God alone acts. The second section (ch. 14-18) deals with those aspects of salvation in which we are involved, though it is all by grace. Of Sanctification is the final chapter in the monopluristic section, but it is also transitional - purposefully placed here leading into the dipluristic section.

Chapter 12 - Of Adoption

I. Paragraph 1

All those that are justified, God vouchsafed, in and for the sake of his only Son Jesus Christ, to make partakers of the grace of adoption, by which they are taken into the number, and enjoy the liberties and privileges of the children of God, have his name put upon them, receive the spirit of adoption, have access to the throne of grace with boldness, are enabled to cry Abba, Father, are pitied, protected, provided for, and chastened by him as by a Father, yet never cast off, but sealed to the day of redemption, and inherit the promises as heirs of everlasting salvation.

(Ephesians 1:5; Galatians 4:4, 5; John 1:12; Romans 8:17; 2 Corinthians 6:18; Revelation 3:12; Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 2:18; Psalms 103:13; Proverbs 14:26; 1 Peter 5:7; Hebrews 12:6; Isaiah 54:8, 9; Lamentations 3:31; Ephesians 4:30; Hebrews 1:14; Hebrews 6:12)

A. Why speak on justification?

1. Necessary to speak of adoption immediately after justification
2. "Adoption is a corollary of justification" - Muller 27
3. Union with Christ

B. Three Heads

1. Fact

- a) Because of justification
- b) Vouchsafe - to grant by favor - technical term - think *voucher*
- c) The fact of adoption is Christ centered - for the sake of God's only Son, Jesus Christ. Christ is the eternal Son of God, we are in him.
- d) We are taken into the number receiving all of the liberties and privileges.
- e) Adoption is one of the basis of Christian liberty.
 - (1) Calvin - you can't understand justification unless you understand Christian liberty. Same with adoption.

2. Blessings

- a) Name - Family relationship
- b) Spirit - Given to us
- c) Access - See Owens in Hebrews Commentary - "Boldness of access is the principle blessing of the New Covenant".
- d) Cry Abba - Language of a child
- e) Pitied, Protected, provided for, chastened - Acts of a Father toward his children
- f) Never cast off
 - (1) Against Lutherans and Arminians
 - (2) Think of above - fatherly displeasure in chapter 11

- g) Sealed - To the day of redemption by the Holy Spirit - marked by the Spirit
 - h) Inherit promises - In a way that is greater than Israel - Romans 9.
3. Result
- a) Heirs of everlasting salvation
 - (1) Notice - Language of family is all over this chapter
 - (2) The basis is justification

[Eph 1:5 ESV] 5 he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

[Gal 4:4-5 ESV] 4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

[Jhn 1:12 ESV] 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

[Rom 8:17 ESV] 17 and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

[2Cr 6:18 ESV] 18 and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."

[Rev 3:12 ESV] 12 The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name.

[Rom 8:15 ESV] 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

[Gal 4:6 ESV] 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

[Eph 2:18 ESV] 18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

[Psa 103:13 ESV] 13 As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

[Pro 14:26 ESV] 26 In the fear of the LORD one has strong confidence, and his children will have a refuge.

[1Pe 5:7 ESV] 7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

[Hbr 12:6 ESV] 6 For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

[Isa 54:8-9 ESV] 8 In overflowing anger for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you," says the LORD, your Redeemer. 9 "This is like the days of Noah to me: as I swore that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you, and will not rebuke you.

[Lam 3:31 ESV] 31 For the Lord will not cast off forever,

[Eph 4:30 ESV] 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

[Hbr 1:14 ESV] 14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

[Hbr 6:12 ESV] 12 so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Chapter 13 - Of Sanctification

Transitional between the two sections - it bleeds over into the dipluristic section

I. Paragraph 1 - Sanctification Defined

They who are united to Christ, effectually called, and regenerated, having a new heart and a new spirit created in them through the virtue of Christ's death and resurrection, are also farther sanctified, really and personally, through the same virtue, by His Word and Spirit dwelling in them; the dominion of the whole body of sin is destroyed, and the several lusts thereof are more and more weakened and mortified, and they more and more quickened and strengthened in all saving graces, to the practice of all true holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. (Acts 20:32; Romans 6:5, 6; John 17:17; Ephesians 3:16-19; 1 Thessalonians 5:21-23; Romans 6:14; Galatians 5:24; Colossians 1:11; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Hebrews 12:14)

A. Definitive (positional) Sanctification: Asserted

1. Sanctification is based upon
 - a) Union with Christ
 - b) Effectual Calling
 - c) Regeneration
2. Consists of having a new heart and new spirit created in the believer
 - a) What does it mean "new spirit"?
 - (1) Do dead men not have spirits?
 - (2) No, this is a statement about the indwelling of the Holy Spirit
 - (3) The holy Spirit is "created" in them - new life is present in the person
 - (4) Contra old heart and old spirit
 3. Christ-centered

B. Progressive Sanctification: Asserted

1. "...are also farther sanctified, really and personally, through the same virtue, by His Word and Spirit dwelling in them..."
2. Also Christ-centered - "through the same virtue" - by the word and by the Spirit, cross of Christ

C. Definitive (positional) Sanctification: Defined

1. Dominion of the whole body of sin is destroyed - lordship of sin is taken away, destroyed
2. That does not mean that it is utterly removed from us
3. When an army wins victory there may still be pockets of skirmishes.

D. Progressive Sanctification: Defined

1. Lusts are weakened... lust, referring to every aspect of sin in our lives
2. There will be forward movement Sin will be diminishing and grace will be increasing
3. Pastorally - we ought to focus on where God is working and where we are progressing, and not always on sin

[Act 20:32 ESV] 32 And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

[Rom 6:5-6 ESV] 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

[Jhn 17:17 ESV] 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

[Eph 3:16-19 ESV] 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith--that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

[1Th 5:21-23 ESV] 21 but test everything; hold fast what is good. 22 Abstain from every form of evil. 23 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[Rom 6:14 ESV] 14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

[Gal 5:24 ESV] 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

[Col 1:11 ESV] 11 May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy,

[2Cr 7:1 ESV] 1 Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

[Hbr 12:14 ESV] 14 Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

II. Paragraph 2 - The Imperfection of our Present Sanctification

This sanctification is throughout the whole man, yet imperfect in this life; there abideth still some remnants of corruption in every part, whence ariseth a continual and irreconcilable war; the flesh lusting against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh.

(1 Thessalonians 5:23; Romans 7:18, 23; Galatians 5:17; 1 Peter 2:11)

- A. Sanctification reaches to the whole man
 - 1. In the fulness of his being - all that I am as a man
 - 2. Throughout his Christian experience
- B. Imperfect - Incomplete
 - 1. Not yet perfect
 - 2. There is a difference between the enemy ejected from the castle, and the enemy storming the castle

[1Th 5:23 ESV] 23 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[Rom 7:18, 23 ESV] 18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ... 23 but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

[Gal 5:17 ESV] 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

[1Pe 2:11 ESV] 11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

III. Paragraph 3- The Continuous and Upward Movement

In which war, although the remaining corruption for a time may much prevail, yet through the continual supply of strength from the sanctifying Spirit of Christ, the regenerate part doth overcome; and so the saints grow in grace, perfecting holiness in the fear of God, pressing after an heavenly life, in evangelical obedience to all the commands which Christ as Head and King, in His Word hath prescribed them.

(Romans 7:23; Romans 6:14; Ephesians 4:15, 16; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 2 Corinthians 7:1)

- A. It's a war - it's
- B. The best of God's people may struggle deeply with sins
 - 1. David, Peter, Abraham
- C. The Spirit will work in those who are truly believers
- D. He uses means
- E. Addition out of 1 LBC
 - 1. We are to participate in our sanctification - "pressing after..."
 - a) [Phl 2:12 ESV] 12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,

[Rom 7:23 ESV] 23 but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

[Rom 6:14 ESV] 14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

[Eph 4:15-16 ESV] 15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

[2Cr 3:18 ESV] 18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

[2Cr 7:1 ESV] 1 Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

Conclusion

This concludes the section emphasizing the monopluristic aspect of salvation.