

Sanctification: Gateway to Glorification Part 3

Tuesday, January 19, 2016

In continuation of the teaching series at the Chapel Service, the Chaplain, Covenant University, Pastor Charles Ihekweba, said that living a sanctified life is crucial to glorification. The Chaplain emphasised that, “Our level of glorification is dependent on our level of sanctification.”

Pastor Ihekweba noted that though sanctification is not a state of ‘sinlessness’ but a state where an individual always want to please God at all time. Quoting from 1Corinthians 15: 14, the Chaplain explained that glory is in level, and the level of sanctification of an individual would determine his level of glory.

Also quoting from 2Timothy 2: 19-21, the Chaplain enjoined everyone to depart from iniquity. “If you name the name of the Lord, you have to depart from iniquity,” he charged. However, he noted that by redemption, we have the capacity to be holy and perfect as our Lord is perfect, 1Peter 1: 16 and Mathew 5: 48.

“Sin is a mystery. It has a spiritual root and must be handled spiritually. The ultimate goal of sin is to bring the victim to spiritual death. Shame, reproach and death becomes the portion of sinners at the end of the day, Ezekiel 18: 4 and Romans 23: 3,” he explained.

Considering the nature of sin, Pastor Ihekweba said sin is secretive. “It is characterised by concealment of intention, Psalm 90: 8. It will never show that it will expose you at the end, Psalm 139: 23-24.” He added that wherever sin reigns, shame reigns also.

The second nature of sin, according to him, is destruction. “Sin is destructive,” he noted. He gave example of Ananias in the Acts of Apostles chapter 5, verses 1 to 11, and led the congregation to ask for mercy in any way they may have missed it.

Then, how can we overcome temptation? The Chaplain enumerated three ways to overcome temptation which include fleeing from all appearances of evil (1Corinthians 6: 18, 1Thesalonians 5: 22); engaging the force of faith (Mathew 11:

12, 1Timothy 6: 12, Genesis 39: 7-12); as well as watching and praying (Mathew 26: 41).

Pastor Ihekwaba also highlighted the benefits of sanctification which among other things include God's order of prosperity, Psalm 112: 1-3; empowerment for exploits, Job 1: 1-3 and posterity, Proverbs 20: 7, Isaiah 41: 8.