# DIRECTION 14 (THE IMPORTANCE AND BENEFITS OF LIVING BY FAITH IN CHRIST OR

## THE IMPORTANCE AND BENEFITS OF LIVING A GOSPEL-DRIVEN LIFE)

**SUMMARY:** "I HAVE BEEN TELLING YOU UP TO THIS POINT THAT YOU MUST SEEK TO LIVE A HOLY LIFE BY BELIEVING IN CHRIST, AND BY WALKING IN HIM BY FAITH. IF YOU ARE GOING TO DO THIS, YOU MUST UNDERSTAND WHY LIVING BY FAITH IN CHRIST IS SO IMPORTANT AND BENEFICIAL TO YOUR SOUL."

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

SUMMARY OF WHAT MARSHALL HAS TAUGHT IN CHAPTERS 1-13:

"...YOU SHOULD FIRST CALL TO MIND WHAT IS THE WAY I HAVE TAUGHT, VIZ., UNION AND FELLOWSHIP WITH CHRIST, AND BY FAITH IN CHRIST, AS DISCOVERED IN THE GOSPEL; NOT BY THE LAW, OR IN A NATURAL CONDITION, OR BY THINKING TO GET IT BEFORE WE COME TO CHRIST, TO PROCURE CHRIST BY IT, WHICH IS STRIVING AGAINST THE STREAM: BUT THAT WE MUST FIRST APPLY CHRIST AND HIS SALVATION TO OURSELVES, FOR OUR COMFORT, AND THAT BY CONFIDENT FAITH; AND THEN WALK BY THAT FAITH, ACCORDING TO THE NEW MAN, IN CHRIST, AND NOT AS IN A NATURAL CONDITION; AND USE ALL MEANS OF HOLINESS RIGHTLY FOR THIS END." P. 225

**NOTE:** THIS FINAL DIRECTION IS THE CONCLUSION OF THE BOOK. IT IS INTENDED TO STIR BELIEVERS UP "UNTO A LIVELY AND CHEERFUL EMBRACING" OF THE PREVIOUS THIRTEEN GOSPEL RULES MENTIONED BY GIVING FIVE WEIGHTY MOTIVES.

**PROPOSITION:** Marshall gives 5 reasons/motives why living by grace through faith in Christ is so crucial to the health of a believer's spiritual life. pp. 226-238

#### LESSON:

I. SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH HUMBLES YOU AND EXALTS GOD ALONE BECAUSE OF HIS GRACE AND POWER GIVEN TO YOU IN JESUS CHRIST. Pp. 226-227

THE GLORY OF GOD IS THE GREAT END OF SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH!

Marshall gives 2 reasons why the Glory of God shines forth ever more brightly in Sanctification by faith in Jesus Christ.

- A. SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH SHOWS THAT YOU CAN DO NOTHING BY YOUR NATURAL ABILITY, OR BY ANY POWER OF YOUR FLESH. P. 226
- B. SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH SHOWS YOU THAT ALL OF YOUR GOOD WORKS, AND LIVING FOR GOD, ARE NOT BY YOUR OWN POWER OR STRENGTH AT ALL, BUT BY THE POWER OF CHRIST, LIVING IN US BY FAITH. P. 226-227
- II. SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IS CONSISTENT WITH ALL OF THE OTHER MAIN TEACHINGS OF THE GOSPEL. PP. 227-233

MARSHALL GIVES FIVE GOSPEL TRUTHS THAT THE DOCTRINE OF SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH AFFIRMS: PP. 228-238

- A. SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IS THE ONLY WAY OF HOLINESS THAT TRULY AFFIRMS THE DOCTRINE OF ORIGINAL SIN. P. 228-229
- B. IT CONFIRMS US IN THE DOCTRINE OF PREDESTINATION. P. 229-230
- C. IT CONFIRMS THE TRUE DOCTRINE OF JUSTIFICATION AND RECONCILIATION WITH GOD BY FAITH. PP. 230-232
- D. IT CONFIRMS THE DOCTRINE OF REAL UNION WITH CHRIST, WHICH SCRIPTURE SPEAKS ABOUT SO MUCH. P. 232
- E. IT CONFIRMS THE DOCTRINE OF THE CERTAIN, FINAL PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS (JOHN 3:36; 4:14; 5:24; 6:37; 10:23; 1 JOHN 3:9; 1 THESS. 5:24; PHILIP. 1:6) PP. 232-233
- III. SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IS THE NEVER-FAILING,
  POWERFULLY EFFECTIVE, TOTALLY SUFFICIENT, AND SURE WAY TO ATTAIN
  TRUE HOLINESS. P. 233

Marshall gives two reasons why seeking holiness in the wrong way only leads to failure and sorrow: p. 233

A. BECAUSE WE ARE UNDER THE LAW IN OUR NATURAL STATE AND WE ARE DEAD, CHILDREN OF WRATH (Eph. 2:1-3), p. 233

- B. SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IS THE ONLY WAY THAT GOD IS RECONCILED TO YOU IN CHRIST (2 Cor. 5:19; Eph. 1:7). p. 233
- IV. IT IS A MOST PLEASANT WAY TO THOSE THAT ARE IN IT (PROV. 3:17); AND THAT IN SEVERAL RESPECTS: Pp. 234-236

MARSHALL GIVES FIVE REASONS WHY SEEKING HOLINESS IN THE WAY OF SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST IS VERY PLEASANT: Pp. 234-236

- A. SANCTIFICATION BY FAITH IN CHRIST IS A VERY PLAIN (I.E., OBVIOUS, SIMPLE) WAY TO GO. P. 234
- B. SANCTIFICATION THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST IS EASY FOR THOSE WHO WALK IN IT BY THE SPIRIT- EVEN THOUGH IT IS DIFFICULT TO GET INTO IT IN THE FIRST PLACE BY REASON OF THE OPPOSITION OF THE FLESH, OR DEVIL, SCARING US, OR SEDUCING US FROM IT. PP. 234-235
- C. THE WAY OF HOLINESS THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST IS A WAY OF PEACE. P. 235
- D. THE WAY OF SANCTIFICATION THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST IS PAVED WITH LOVE. Pp. 235-236
- E. OUR VERY MOVING, ACTING, WALKING IN SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST IS A PLEASURE AND DELIGHT. P. 236
- V. THE WAY OF SANCTIFICATION IS A HIGH AND EXALTED WAY, ABOVE ALL OTHER WAYS. PP. 236-238

MARSHALL GIVES SEVEN REASONS WHY THE WAY OF SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST IS HIGH AND EXALTED ABOVE ALL OTHER WAYS: PP. 236-238

- A. You live very high with sanctification by grace through faith in Christ because you live not according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. pp. 236-237
- B. You live very high with sanctification by grace through faith in Christ because you are enabled to do the most difficult duties (Philippians 4:1-3). Nothing is too hard for you. p. 237

- C. YOU LIVE VERY HIGH WITH SANCTIFICATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST BECAUSE YOU WALK IN AN HONORABLE STATE WITH GOD, AND ON HONORABLE TERMS. P. 237
- D. You live very high with sanctification by grace through faith in Christ because it is only for those who are honorable and precious in the eyes of the Lord- His elect and redeemed ones, whose special privilege it is to walk in this way of holiness. p. 237
- E. You live very high with sanctification by grace through faith in Christ because it is a very costly way (Hebrews 10:19-20; 1 Peter 3:18) p. 237
- F. You live very high with sanctification by grace through faith in Christ because it is the good old way of all of the true flock of God. p. 237
- G. You live very high with sanctification by grace through faith in Christ because it is the way to perfection. p. 238

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