A SANCTIFICATION PRAYER

I Thessalonians 5:23

Paul demonstrates his passion by praying about sanctification?

I. PRAY FOR GOD'S GREAT IMPACT

A. IN EVERY WAY HOLY: Now may God sanctify you

- 1. Sanctification is that process by which we increasingly put off sin and put on the Savior
 - See Ephesians 4:17-24 and Colossians 3:5-17
- 2. To be sanctified is to be wholly separated from the profane > See 5:21-22
- 3. To be sanctified is to be exclusively devoted and obedient to God > See I Peter 1:14-16

B. IN EVERY WAY AFFECTED: Now may God sanctify you entirely

- 1. Holiness in every area of one's life
 - Leaving nothing untouched
- 2. Consider some elements of holiness in life
 - What about our attitudes, conduct and commitments?

C. IN EVERY WAY YIELDED: Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely

- 1. The God of peace is literally the One who harmonizes
- 2. The God of peace puts the pieces together in ways that will please Himself
- 3. Recognizing that His goal is our holiness and not necessarily our happiness

II. PRAY FOR GOD'S DESIRED OUTCOME

A. THEIR BEING

- The goal is that holiness would touch specific areas of their lives
- 1. Spirit: That which relates to the heart See I Thess. 5:8-10
- 2. Soul: That which relates to the emotions See I Thess. 4:9-10
- 3. Body: That which relates to the physical See I Thess. 4:3-5

B. THEIR BEAUTY: Preserved complete

- 1. Being and doing exactly what they were designed to do
- 2. Arriving undamaged in God's presence See I Thess. 2:19-20

C. THEIR BLAMELESSNESS: Without blame

- 1. Without deficiency of fault See I Thess. 3:13
- 2. Without censure > Not marked up
- 3. Worthy of being the standard and copied by others See I Thess. 1:6-7

CONCLUSION:

We need to offer sanctification prayers whereby we ask God to make people holy

- 1. Personally: Pray for you own and others sanctification
- 2. Practically: Pray but also pry!
 - If it's important enough to pray about, it's important enough to ask about
 - See I Thess. 5:14
- 3. Pastorally: Our greatest delight is seeing your growth in holiness See I Thess. 2:13-14
 - We will pray for you and prompt you toward that end