

KESSID SERMON NOTES

**Sermon**

"Damaged Saints"

Date

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Speaker

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Many have said:

- "What an Incredible Life! But... that Man was a Saint," or... "Such an incredible, yet unattainable life..."
- The Greek word for saints is the word "hagios" and means "most holy thing"
- When believers are called and saved we are... Sanctified. Def: "set apart for holy use"
- This means... "God sees us as having Jesus own righteousness" ...

(Vs) 2 Cor. 5:21 – "For our sake, He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

So... we are all Saints who believe in the name of Jesus Christ...

- But all too often we don't believe it!
- We see people like Billy Graham as "One Offs" and "Special"
- The Problem Is: That we then give ourselves permission to live our lives without the power that's offered through our sanctification...

Today... I want to share with you a revelation the Lord gave shared with me a long time ago regarding Sanctification...

- This revelation is so clearly revealed all throughout scripture again and again... but perhaps nowhere more clearly than in today's passage of study; (Vs) Acts 4:12-18 – This is all 12 of the Apostles
- (Vs) Acts 4:19-21a – "...all the words of this life"
- What kind of description is that of the Gospel?

Def: Gospel "The teaching or revelation of Christ." "Words of Life"

"Speak all the words of this heavenly, divine life, in comparison with which the present earthly life does not deserve the name. These words of life, which the Holy Ghost puts into your mouth. The words of the gospel are the words of life; words whereby we may be saved." – Matthew Henry

The next morning, the High Priest sent for them...but of course they were not there...

(Vs) Acts 5:25-32 – And someone came and told them, “Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people...”

- **Notice it here...** inside verse 32 - “We are witnesses...”
- It’s Peter who says this...The Damaged Follower and Failed Friend...
- He is proclaiming... “Today I stand here, both Stained and Sanctified, proclaiming the name of Jesus!”
- (Vs) Acts 5:33-35 – Gamaliel tells them to be careful what they do next...

Now...What's happening in the minds of Peter and the others...

- Thoughts about how they were going to die?
- Prayer for God's Provision and Power

Imagine: Peter, knowing this is his second chance to stand his ground...

- To be the Rock God has called him to be; (Vs) Acts 5:40 – Really slow this down and ponder it with me...
- They call you in and they begin to beat you and your 11 friends. You don't know if or when it will stop, and while damaging your body they curse you to renounce you are His follower...
- Then suddenly, it's over. They charge you to stop preaching and they throw you and your friends outside...
- (Vs) Acts 5:41,42 – What? They look around at one another...Someone spits, someone helps someone else up...A bloody smile, a coughing laugh...**We're alive!**
- They begin to head home... rejoicing breaks out! They're now shouting, singing and praising God!
- Only Peter is quiet, walking by himself back at the end of the tattered troop.
- He stops to look back and his eyes fill with tears as he realizes that He is as God said He would be. He has passed the test he could not before!
- Because of the blood and bruises he now can be assured he is different...
- His own sanctification made known to him MOST clearly, not in his gifts or talents, but in the damage he sob beautifully endured.

Many years ago I thought my ministry was over...

- A very close friend was leaving our church... “If everyone leaves, are you still willing to plant this Church?”

My Revelation: “This World will tell you that your damage determines your worth... but in reality, God says that it's inside your damage that you will discover He who is Worthy”

My Question Is: Are you there? Are you ready? Whatever the Cost?

- “Are you willing to live your life smiling back through bloodied teeth... Boldly proclaiming HE who is worth it all?”