

indicates as being the proper use or service. The whole is equal to the sum of its parts---I think that is how I learned it in math long ago--and in this area it merely indicates that when we talk about the whole person we want to be more specific and deal with individual aspects as well as the total impression.

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MESSAGE # 1: THE CONSECRATION OF THE WHOLE PERSON

Biblical Passage: Galatians 2:20 (and context)

I. Introduction to the Study:

Consecration is a term indicating that something has been dedicated to some cause...and the term has, on the whole, a religious motif. It is like dedication but with a holiness emphasis. The Old Testament picture is best seen in Leviticus 8 when the entirety of the priestly person is set apart for God. Sanctification is a rough synonym but both terms enjoy the reality of having the Lord as the center of the action or emphasis. The Galatians text tells of our placement with Christ and that because of that fact we are alive and the life that we have is really not ours but a life to be lived for Him. The thrust of the text and our discussion is the simple truth of allowing one's whole life to be set apart for the Lord. It is not a matter of one's employment or occupation but rather a case of one's purpose and the commitment that one makes in having the life given to us returned to the Lord for the honor of His testimony. It is something for every believer to take to heart and prayer.

II. Discussion: In seeing the reality of this matter (the consecration of the whole person) there are some key elements that need stress. I will note three of them as I understand their importance.

A. Know the reality of your redemption:

Note Galatians 2:16 and put it in reference with 2 Corinthians 5:14-16. The personal reality is knowing that Christ died for us and it is a blessed state to live for Him. We often see the slogan that "a mind is a terrible thing to waste" and that is