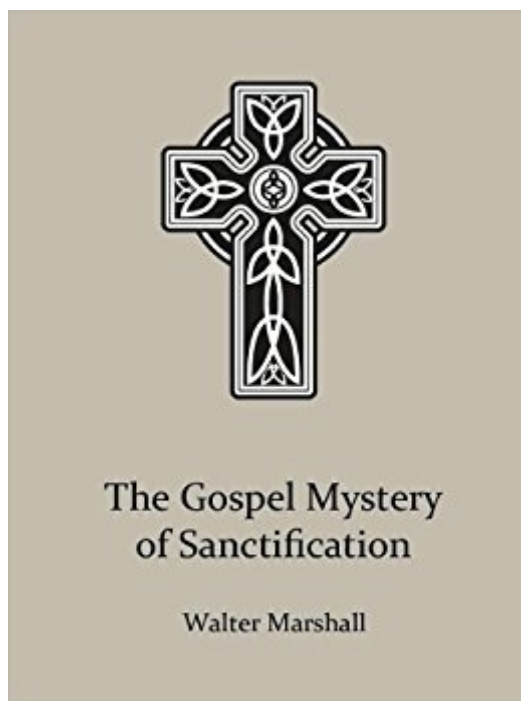


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The Gospel Mystery Of Sanctification



Synopsis

Walter Marshall was born in 1628 at Bishops Wearmouth in Durham, England. At age eleven, he went to study at Winchester College. He then became a fellow at New College, Oxford, from 1648 to 1657. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1652. Two years later, he was approved for the living of Fawley, Hampshire. In 1656, he was appointed to the vicarage of Hursley, Hampshire, four miles from Winchester. From 1657 to 1661, he served as a fellow at Winchester College. He married and had two daughters. When the Act of Uniformity passed in 1662, ministers of the Church of England were asked to give proof of Episcopal ordination and their conformity to the Book of Common Prayer. Like hundreds of his Puritan colleagues, Marshall decided on the basis of conscience not to conform. He and other Nonconformists were ejected from their parishes on St. Bartholomew's Day, August 24, 1662. In the preface to Marshall's work on sanctification, a friend said, "He [Marshall] was put under the Bartholomew Bushel with near two thousand more lights whose illumination made the land a Goshen."

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Customer Reviews

I do not know of any other books which can properly claim to be equal to this one. Written in 1692,

this book plainly shows what real salvation is all about and how to walk in it. First, Marshall supports everything he says directly with Scripture. Second, against the timeless 'antinomian' error he shows that a faith that does not include faith for sanctification is not a saving faith. Third he shows in detail the difference between works and faith. He goes deeply into the psychology that entraps so many people, especially of 'holiness' type traditions, from actually receiving the transforming power. In essence, he shows what the Gospel is and what it is not, in the most convincing way. The church, especially the charismatic church (I'm a charismatic), would benefit greatly by learning more deeply the truths in this book, and in fact many do teach them, but few with the depth and insight that Marshall does here. Moreover, Marshall leads you to Christ through His Word-- all other ground being truly sinking sand. This book is difficult to read however. Though it is small, the print is tiny, and the material is dense, and the presentation plain. The language itself however, is not a barrier. It was this book that was instrumental in the young life of A.B. Simpson founder of the Christian Missionary Alliance

First, due to the style of writing (a Puritan writing back in the 1600's), it is VERY hard to read. I read a page, put the book down, then picked it up a day later. That's how hard it is to read due to the style AND the print. There are no paragraph breaks and the print is small which adds to the problem. Second, WOW! What can I say? Those of us who are Christians only THINK we are. We are NOWHERE near being a Christian than the unsaved/unconverted are...not by any stretch of the imagination. This Scripture applies to us: "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). Why? Because this book cuts right down to the inner heart. It shows us that we that think we stand, take heed, because we don't. Third, this book is a call to sanctification (Webster's: to make holy; consecrate; to purify or free from sin), to set yourselves apart from the world and do what He asks of you. Are you ready? Only by His strength can any of us begin to live like this.

Jack Miller learned from this book and Dr. John Murray called it the best book ever written on sanctification. It is deep and challenging to read, because it was written long ago in a language style that is a bit hard for us moderns. But it is a deep lake of delightful waters of grace leading to holiness. Though we commonly think that we must produce a holy frame in ourselves, the mystery is that it is all of Christ and all of grace. Bryan Chapell's Holiness by Grace is not as deep, but teaches and applies the same ideas quite well. Many might prefer to begin by digesting Chapell

before wrestling with Marshall.

The Gospel Mystery of Sanctification is a MUST read. It is the single BEST book written on sanctification and the Christian life. I cannot encourage people enough to get this book and read it. I have read both the original and Bruce McRae's updated version into Modern English. Read both. Both are excellent. Every believer should read this book at least 10 times before reading another book on sanctification and the Christian life. There is simply nothing like it in modern Evangelicalism. Get this book. Read it. Think about it. Study it. Digest it and then read it again. Your life will NEVER be the same! I rate this book 5 to the billionth power and more!

Excellent book. Best thing on sanctification I've read, it teaches the importance of obedience and holiness without the guilt most books of this type use. It is centered on the benefits received in Christ and how that flows naturally into sanctification but not without effort on our part.

I gave this five stars because of the light of truth spoken in such a freeing way that delivers and truly reveals the living word of God in the divine order intended. Yes that we no longer see men but see Christ as our Lord and God. I Am reading this on Kindle ,have just ordered in book form. These writings are rare never know when they will be out of print. I will not want to be without this one in such a time as this when truth is hard to come by. It is a treasure to have.

Not a light read by any means, but I prefer books that cause me to think seriously about significant doctrines of the Christian faith. This book focuses on the mysterious nature of salvation and sanctification and how faith and works should be viewed in light of that. So much of modern Christianity (particularly in Protestant churches) has lost its taste for the mysteries of God. In an age of reason, things we cannot understand are often rejected or translated into something more earth-bound. This book focuses on the mysterious workings of the gospel and provides scriptural proof-text to validate his positions. I understand there is a newer version that is written in more modern English, so consider that if the original text doesn't suit you.

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