QA: How Can a Christian Become a Saint? by [John T Polk II](#)

*All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.*

QUESTION: How can a Christian become a saint?

ANSWER: The distinction is between name ("Christian") and function ("saint"), but not in condition ("saved"). When God told Moses to:

> "Sanctify to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and beast; it is Mine." (**Exodus 13:1-2**)

Then it was explained:

> "You shall set apart to the LORD all that open the womb."
> (**Exodus 13:12**)

To be "sanctified" is to be "set apart" or designated for a particular purpose. Jesus' prayer showed that His followers are "sanctified" when He said:

> And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. (**John 17:19**)

Since "the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11:26), and disciples (followers) are "sanctified," then **it is false doctrine for anyone to make a distinction between being a "saint" or being a "Christian***!"*

The Apostle Paul wrote:

> To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours. (**1 Corinthians 1:2**)

There were "saints" in the church of God in Corinth. Paul had "testified to the Jews *that* Jesus *is* the Christ," "And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed, and were baptized" (**Acts 18:5,8**). "Saint" is short for "sanctified," or set aside for spiritual purpose. A "saint" calls on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord." When Saul of Tarsus was told to "Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (**Acts 22:16**), "he arose and was baptized" (**Acts 9:18**).

There were "saints" before any Roman Catholic Church. There was no Roman Catholic Church in existence when Paul wrote: "To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints" (**Romans 1:7**). They were "distributing to the needs of the saints" (**Romans 12:13**). Paul was "going to Jerusalem to minister to the saints. For it pleased those from Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the

poor among the saints who are in Jerusalem" (**Romans 15:25-26**). There is more than just serving the poor, however, for:

> Though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.
> (**1 Corinthians 13:3**)

Serving without love "profits nothing." Corinthians "hearing, believed, and were baptized" (**Acts 18:8**) and were "sanctified in Christ Jesus" (**1 Corinthians 1:2**). Being a "Christian," one must be "sanctified."

—— jtpll, February 14, 2021

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