

DIVINE ACTION

HUMAN EXPERIENCE

PREDESTINATION

BAPTISM: "God had become thy God and is beforehand with thee." (Shepard, *Autobiography* 36)

PREPARATION:

CONTRITION: "when a sinner by the sight of sinne, and vileness of it, and the punishment due to the same, is made sensible of sinne, and is made to hate it, and hath his heart separated from the same" (Hooker, *The Soules Preparation* 2)

HUMILIATION: "The Soule apprehends it selfe miserable, and it falls upon the arme of Gods mercy, and meerly goes out to God for succour. Now for a man to fetch all from without, and it to seeke for sufficiencie from himselfe, these two cannot stand together they are professely crosse one to another; and therefore after the Lord hath made the Soule see an absolute necessitie of a change, and now the Soule seeth an utter impossibilitie in himselfe, to change or alter himselfe, then he is content to go to Christ for grace and power. Thus Humiliation pares away all a mans priviledges, and all his hearing, and praying, &c. not, that a man must use these no more, but hee must not rest upon them for strength to help and succour himselfe withall." (Hooker, *The Soules Humiliation* 7)

JUSTIFICATION

VOCATION: This is the point often identified as conversion, at which the individual becomes aware that he or she is among the elect, and that the promises of the salvation described in the Gospels apply to him or her personally. Literally, vocation means calling; this is the moment at which Christ offers the promises of the Gospel to the individual, together with the command to believe in them. God also grants faith, giving the individual the ability to believe in the promises.

FAITH: "when the soul hath the Lord Jesus, the highest and chiefest cause of rejoycing it hath, is, only its having of Christ A man is said to have Christ when he hath the Spirit The Spirit of God, wheresoever it is shed abroad in any member of Christ, it doth make us one with the Lord Jesus, it unites us in fellowship of nature, a likeness in affection and disposition, and a likeness in all the graces of God" (Cotton, *Christ the Fountaine of Life* 10, 58, 59)

SANCTIFICATION: "To do the work of Christ, to be daily at it, and finishing of it; for look as it was with the head, it is so with all the members that are to remain a while in this life, they have some work to do for the Lord; some common, some special work; and when that is done, now they are ready to return home again. Hence, (John xvii. 4, 5,) 'I have finished the work;' and now he stands at the door and knocks, and is ready for entrance.

"'Now, glorify me with thyself,' and you shall find a faithful heart will neither be willing nor ready to go till this is done.

"*Quest.* What is this work I am to do?

"*Ans.* I have answered this elsewhere at large, yet these two things I would say:--

"1. That a man's chief work lies not in facile duties; for though grace and Christ's Spirit make duties easy, his yoke easy, yet there is a contrary spirit that will make them hard and difficult at first.

"2. Lest I should leave you unsatisfied altogether, we shall find a Christian life is carried with a double motion: 1. In seeking of God in his ordinances; 2. Or in walking with God out of his ordinances; these are joined together." (Shepard, *The Parable of the Ten Virgins* 95-6)

GLORIFICATION

JUSTIFICATION

vs.

SANCTIFICATION

freed from guilt
imputed righteousness
accepted by God
by faith alone

freed from corruption
gift of inherent righteousness
morally renewed by God
involves both faith and obedience