

# 1 Corinthians 6:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

## Analysis

**And such were some of you** (kai tauta tines ēte, καὶ ταῦτα τινες ἦτε)—the hinge verse, dripping with redemptive power. *Ēte* (ἦτε) is past tense: 'you were,' no longer! *Tauta* ('these things') points back to the whole sordid catalog—fornicators, idolaters, thieves, drunkards. Some Corinthian Christians were these things. The gospel doesn't attract the righteous but transforms the wicked.

Then three glorious passives: **but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified** (alla apelousasthe, alla hēgiasthēte, alla edikaiōthēte, ἀλλὰ ἀπελούσασθε, ἀλλὰ ἡγιάσθητε, ἀλλὰ ἐδικαιώθητε). Passive voice—God acts, they receive. *Apelousasthe* ('washed') evokes baptism, cleansing from defilement (cf. Acts 22:16). *Hēgiasthēte* ('sanctified') means set apart, made holy—a positional change. *Edikaiōthēte* ('justified') is forensic: declared righteous, acquitted. All three occur **in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God**—Trinitarian salvation: Father's agency, Son's authority, Spirit's power.

## Historical Context

Corinthian converts included slaves, freedmen, merchants, and perhaps some aristocrats—people embedded in systemic vice (sexual, economic, religious). The gospel didn't merely reform morals but re-created identity. 'Such were some of you' became the church's testimony—a living demonstration of resurrection power.

Critics mocked Christianity as a religion of slaves and prostitutes; Paul says, 'Yes, and look what God did with them.' Transformation validates the gospel.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. What 'such were some of you' testimony do you carry—what sins or brokenness did Christ rescue you from?
2. How does the threefold washing-sanctifying-justifying prevent both legalism (it's all God's work) and antinomianism (we're called to holiness)?
3. Why is it essential that some church members have dramatic conversion stories from deep sin—what does this reveal about grace?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	ταῦτά	τινες	ἦτε·	ἀλλ'	ἀπελούσασθε	ἀλλ'
<b>And</b>	<b>such</b>	<b>some of you</b>	<b>were</b>	<b>but</b>	<b>ye are washed</b>	<b>but</b>
G2532	G5023	G5100	G2258	G235	G628	G235

ἡγιασθητε	ἀλλ'	ἐδικαιώθητε	ἐν	τῷ	ὀνόματι	τοῦ
<b>ye are sanctified</b>	<b>but</b>	<b>ye are justified</b>	<b>by</b>	G3588	<b>the name</b>	G3588
G37	G235	G1344	G1722		G3686	

κυρίου	Ἰησοῦ	καὶ	ἐν	τῷ	πνεύματι	τοῦ	θεοῦ	ἡμῶν
<b>of the Lord</b>	<b>Jesus</b>	<b>And</b>	<b>by</b>	G3588	<b>the Spirit</b>	G3588	<b>God</b>	<b>of our</b>
G2962	G2424	G2532	G1722		G4151		G2316	G2257

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Corinthians 1:30** (Righteousness): But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

**Acts 22:16** (References Lord): And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

**Romans 8:30** (Righteousness): Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

**1 Corinthians 1:2** (Holy): Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both their's and our's:

**Ephesians 5:26** (Parallel theme): That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

**1 Peter 1:2** (Spirit): Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

**Hebrews 10:22** (Parallel theme): Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

**Acts 26:18** (Holy): To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

**Ephesians 5:8** (References Lord): For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

**Romans 5:1** (Righteousness): Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: