

Qualities of a Qualified Vessel

2 Timothy 2:20-26

Paul presents two different categories of vessels, those for honor and those for dishonor. The vessels are people like you and me . . . people to be used by the Lord.

A qualified vessel of honor must be . . .

I. Cleansed from _____ (21a)

II. Sanctified for the _____ (21b)

III. Purified in _____ (22)

IV. Careful regarding _____ (23)

V. Gentle in _____ (24)

VI. Humble in _____ (25-26)

We are to put off what belongs to our old life and to put on what belongs to our new life. We are to put to death our earthly members and to set our minds on heavenly things. We are to crucify the flesh and to walk in the Spirit. It is the ruthless rejection of the one, in combination with the relentless pursuit of the other, which Scripture enjoins upon us as the secret of holiness . . . Only so can we hope to be fit for the Master's use. If the promise is to be inherited (he will be a vessel for honor), the condition must be fulfilled (if anyone cleanses himself).

- John Stott