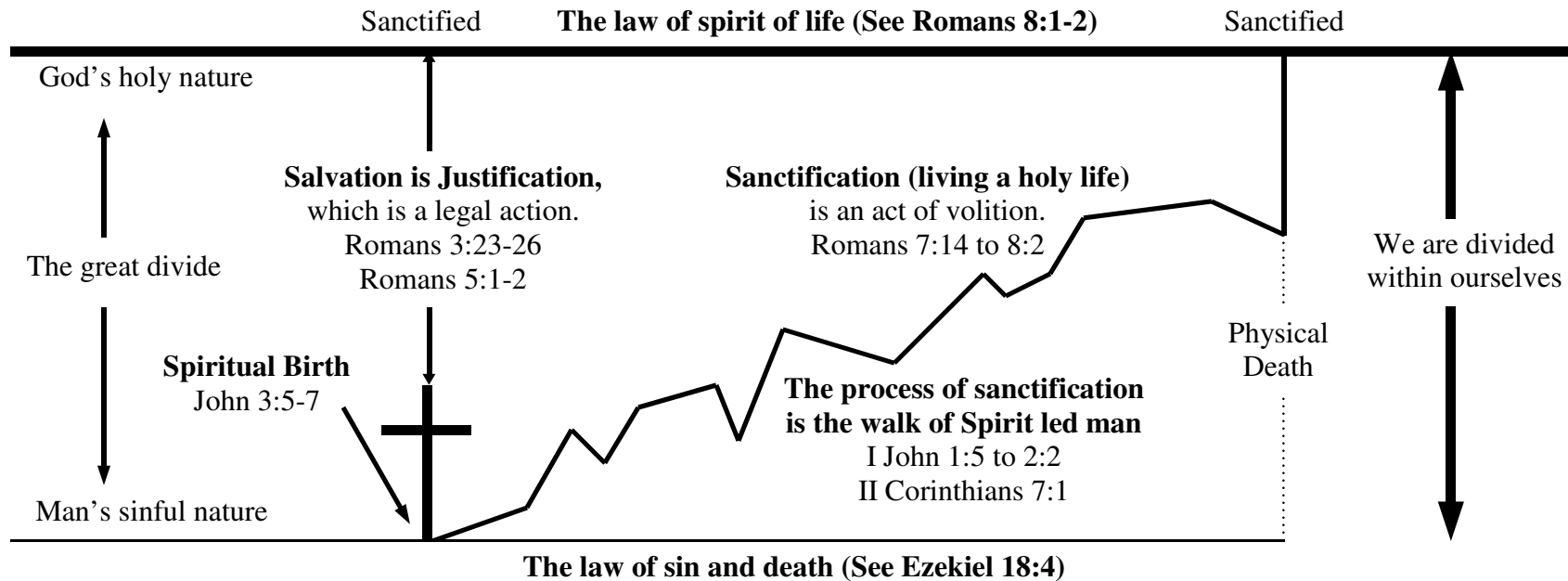


Sanctification and Healing



The books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and the book of Acts demonstrate God's love (salvation and healing) through Jesus Christ, the Apostles and the early Church. From the books of Romans to Jude God teaches us about sanctification. Before the cross we are lost in sin. After the cross we are justified (saved) through faith in Jesus Christ. But after the cross we are to grow in the Lord spiritually by removing sin that is still part of our lives. (see James 5:13-16) This is called sanctification (I Thessalonians 5:23). Sanctification is a life-long process, not a one time event. In the end, God will not judge us by our perfection (holiness) or lack of it, but rather by our walk in the Lord (sanctification).

The root cause of chronic illness most often is lack of sanctification (Psalm 38:3-8). The unclean spirits of fear, jealousy, worry, selfish ambition, unforgiveness, hatred, strife and the like are the earmarks of Satan that can cause our body to suffer. Until those sin issues of the heart are acknowledged and given over to God for removal, there can be no health in the body. That we suffer in body should indicate the spiritual war being waged within our heart (Ephesians 6:12). To separate chronic illness from our walk with God is to deny the source of that disease (Satan), its cause (Sin) and healing (God's Peace). Healing begins when we make peace with God and allow Him in our heart to work us over, what the Apostle John calls walking in the light (I John 1:7).