

## **Words!** **Part 4: "Justification!"**

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. **Proverbs 25.11**

So far we have talked about Mercy and Grace, the two foundation stones of our life in Christ! Mercy, making us right with God... Grace... empowering us to be like Him! And standing so firmly on our foundation that we cannot be shaken off! Not by life or death or anything in between! People may not understand it but they will like the results of it!

We will be men and women of grace... Who do not fall when the bottom drops out... *tied to something higher!* Who keep their head when people are losing control... *having the mind of Christ!* Ready and positioned to rescue... *tied to the heart of God and hindered by nothing in this world!* Rare... does happen... will happen more!

Mercy and Grace lead to Justification and Sanctification: "We are *justified* freely by His grace thru the redemption that is in Christ Jesus!" **R3.24** "If a man therefore purge himself he shall be a vessel unto honor, *sanctified*, and meet for the master's use." **2T2.21**

Today, Justification: to make right. In a Christian sense, to have a broken relationship with God restored. To be justified, made right with God. However, justification does not occur because of anything the justified person has done. The new relationship is established by the power and mercy of God alone, and a believer's role is simply to believe and trust. [Redeemed, reconciled, paid up]

**Justification is the result of God's mercy demonstrated in the Cross of Jesus!** "By grace (God's favor, benefits and gifts) you are saved thru faith (believing) and that is not even your own, it is the gift of God so that no man can boast... *but now in Jesus* you who were far away *are now made near to God by His blood* (the only acceptable payment for the penalty of sin) and He is our peace... *reconciling us to God...*" **Eph 2.8-16**

"And you being dead in your sins has He quickened (made alive again) together *with Him having forgiven you of all your sins*; blotting out the handwriting of broken laws recorded against you taking it out of the way *by nailing it to His cross...*" **Colossians 2.13-15**

**Justification is based on what Jesus did, not what we've done or are doing!** "if Abraham (the father of our faith) was justified by works, he would have reason to glory; but this is not the God story. The scripture says: Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Now to him that works, the reward is not grace, but a debt. But if a man is justified by believing on Him that justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted for justification. David says the same describing the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness without works, saying, Blessed are they whose sins are forgiven, and covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin. **Romans 4.2-8**

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: *By whom also we have access by faith into this grace (favor, benefits and gifts of God) wherein we stand*, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. **Romans 5.1,2**

Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, *we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son*, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only that, but *we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.* **Romans 5.9-11**

**V12-21** As by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned... if through the offence of one, many are dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace which is by one man, Jesus Christ, has abounded to many. the judgment was by one to condemnation, but

the free gift is of many offences unto justification. For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) Therefore as by the offence of one, judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. As sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. Galatians 2.16*

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. *I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain. Gal 2.20,21*

**"By Him, all that believe are justified from all things, from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses!" Acts 13.39**

**Justification is a work of God, accomplished at the Cross, accepted by faith and no man can judge it!**

The long hair version of justification is *soteriology* which is related to *theodicy*... Soteriology: the theology of salvation! Soter: savior-deliverance! Theodicy: theo-dike: God's order! Justification: made right with God by acquittal thru Savior; God's order! Not too important until someone asks, "How are made right with God?"

**Many debates over:** Who is saved/savable? Preselected or whole world offered salvation or universalism? Once saved are you always saved? How exactly are you saved? What is the proof of salvation? And all the unsaved guy wants to know is: **"Does accepting Jesus really mean I'm saved?"**

**Particularly important to know when it comes to things like:** "He told us that he accepted Jesus as Savior when he was 7... never went to church as adult, bore no fruit, now he's gone at 70 and we want to know, is he?"

***Does God honor childlike faith?***

"He said he was saved and then he went off the deep end... is he?" Are works really the deciding factor? Doesn't the Bible say that "Faith w/o works is dead?"

***Faith w/o works IS dead... the dynamic of faith is missing... but it doesn't follow that the man is "dead in his sin!"***

**"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead you will be saved!" Romans 10.9**

**"For with the heart man has faith for justification and with the mouth acknowledgment is made for salvation!" Romans 10.10**

**If you submit yourself to the idea that works has anything to do with "justification" then how many "works" does it take? (A: ALL!)**

Submit yourself to any of the laws to "justify" salvation... Must do the whole law! Gal 3.1, 5.3-8 We can judge a person's fruit, and say, "you have lousy fruit brother..." "You're wasting a lot of time!" We can say you really stink at living up to the dignity of your salvation... But none of us has the right to say, you're not saved because you don't have the works...! [Sovereign territory!] **We conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. Romans 3.28**

**Only God is in charge of the "Why do you call Me Lord when you don't do the things I say?" It's His "depart"-ment alone! Mt7/Lk6 "For the LORD sees not as man does; for man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart!" 1Samuel 16.7**

## **SWAIGTDWWIKN?**

**Going to work to get people saved...** Because they can't get to heaven w/o hearing about and responding to Jesus! **Going to double check when in doubt! Going to help them as I can to grow in the grace and knowledge of God...** Discipleship, coaching, mentoring, sponsoring, encouraging, all part... but I am going to be sure they are "justified!"