

Justified

- The action of God to pronouncing sinners righteous
- Greek: δικαίω [dikaioō], verb, present passive participle
 - Present – happening now to us
 - Passive – being done by God to us

Romans 3:21-26

But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

(continued)

Romans 3:21-26

whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

The Righteousness of God

- Apart from the Law
- With the 'witness' of the
 - Law
 - Prophets
- This was the life of Christ lived out by direction of the Holy Spirit, able to fulfill the Law, prophesied by the Prophets
- The righteousness of God may be manifested through those who believe

There is No Distinction

- All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God – the Law proves it – so the distinction between Jews & Gentiles is removed
- All have fallen short of the glory of God
- We need God's righteousness because our own is not even of the same class or type

Justified as a Gift

- Justification is a result of a gift from God
- The reason we get that gift is that God is gracious
- Grace is the unlimited, unmerited blessing of God
- Justified *by grace through* the redemptive work that is wrapped up in our identification with Christ

Christ the Propitiation

- Propitiation – placating God's wrath
- Through faith in the blood of Christ
- Demonstrated God's righteousness
- God's righteousness was demonstrated by His producing a method of propitiation that would allow Him to disregard or pass over the sins of the believer

God the Just and God the Justifier

- God demonstrated His righteousness so that He would be shown as Just
- God demonstrated His righteousness so that He would be shown as a justifier
- God justifies the believer: God's work is passive, the believer doesn't participate other than being the object of God's justification!

Romans 8:33-34

Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

Who Can Bring a Charge?

- When you are in God's grip, there is no charge that can be brought
 - The ultimate authority of the universe has jurisdiction over you already
 - The only one who would dare accuse you knows that it has been dealt with
 - Your accepting any accusation is simply ignoring your position
- God has the authority to justify

Christ Jesus...

- Our identification with Christ in His
 - Death
 - Burial
 - Resurrection
 - Ascension
 - Seating at the right hand of GodLeads Christ to intercede for us

Theological Ramifications of Justification

- Security of salvation (8:33)
- Removes need for fleshly guilt in the day-to-day (Romans 5:21)
- Believer can draw near to God (Heb. 10:22)
- Can pray without ceasing
- Walk in
 - Newness of life
 - Victory over the sin nature