Faith Alone

Pt. II

Intro: When we speak of “Justification by Faith Alone” we mean that one is by God not on the basis of any human work, act, merit, devotion to God, good moral intentions, church attendance, or sacrifice but only in Christ and His sacrificial work upon the cross. Borrowing from the Cambridge Declaration: “We reaffirm that justification is by grace alone through faith alone because of Christ alone. In justification Christ’s righteousness is imputed to us as the only possible satisfaction of God’s perfect justice.”

A. “In Christian Theology justification is that by which the sinner, who is responsible for his guilt and is under condemnation but believes in Christ, is pronounced just and righteous, or acquitted, by God the judge. In the Scriptures God justifies by grace, for Christ's sake, through ... the terms ‘justification’ or ‘to justify’ are used in a special Biblical, forensic, or judicial sense, ‘to declare or pronounce righteous,’ not to make righteous”

B. As we examine Biblical justification we find that:

1. The source of justification is God's alone. (Romans 3:24 & Titus 3:5 & 7)
2. The legal for justification is the work of alone! (2 Cor 5:21)
3. The of justification is alone. 3:28, 4:4-5 & Ephesians : & )

I. Faith (Christian / Biblical faith) is the faith that is necessary for justification.

A. Romans 3:22 tells us that the “righteousness of God” comes “through in Jesus Christ” to “all those who believe ...” Verse 25, tells us that God presented Jesus “as a propitiation” “through faith” “in His blood ...” Verse 26 tells us that God is “the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.” Verse 28, “... a man is justified by faith from works of the Law.” And beyond our text in verse 30 we find that it is “God who will justify all believers “by faith ...”And, Romans 4:5, “But to the one who does not work (that is, trying to fulfill the Law), but in Him who justifies the ungodly, his is reckoned as righteousness.”

II. What (then) is faith; the faith that God grants? What are its characteristics?

A. One necessary component of Biblical faith is .

1. A knowledge of the truth of God is an essential element of saving faith.
   a. The of God is necessary to saving faith!

2. Romans 10:17, “Faith comes by , hearing by the of Christ!”
3. 2 Peter 1:3, “seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, the of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.”

B. A second necessary component of saving faith is .

1. While belief is most commonly associated only with the mind - believing that something is
factual; Biblical belief is much more than that. Biblical belief is believing with all that is in us - with all our ____________, ____________, mind, and ____________.

2. According to Acts 16:31-34 after the jailer and his household gained a ____________ of the Word of the Lord, they ____________. We know they believed because the Word declares it, and because they immediately began to obey Christ.

C. A third necessary component of saving faith is ____________.

1. For saving faith to be saving faith, obedience ____________ ____________ the knowledge and belief.

a. According to James 2:17, the demons believe and yet they are demons! Why? They are missing one component of saving faith. They ____________ because they have ____________ themselves to the Lordship of God, but rather they rebel!

b. “If you love Me, you will ____________ My commandments” (John 14:15)! Saving faith is demonstrated by the working of the ____________ which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them (Eph 2:10). Saving faith is demonstrated when one, as John the Baptist put it, brings “forth fruits in keeping with repentance” (Luke 3:7); and as the Apostle Paul put it, “performing ____________ appropriate to repentance” (Acts 26:20).

1. The obedient acts, the good works, the fruits or performing deeds appropriate to repentance are the ____________ of an inward saving ____________ that cannot be contained.

2. Forms of faith are not to be confused with saving faith for saving faith manifests itself in one’s trusting commitment in Christ as their Savior and Lord ____________ submitting themselves to the ____________ of Jesus Christ!

3. 2 Peter 1:3-8, “seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. 4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of {the} divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. 5 Now for this very reason also, ____________ all diligence, in your faith ____________ moral excellence, and in {your} moral excellence, knowledge; 6 and in {your} knowledge, self-control, and in {your} self-control, perseverance, and in {your} perseverance, godliness; 7 and in {your} godliness, brotherly kindness, and in {your} brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if these {qualities} are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

4. Matthew 7:24-27, “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine, and ____________, may be compared to a wise man, who built his house upon the rock. 25 "And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and burst against that house; and {yet} it did not fall, for it had been founded upon the rock. 

   The faith God grants comes by a true ____________ of Jesus Christ; is ____________ by internalizing that truth; and so moves the believer that he obediently ____________ himself to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. This is the faith by which one is justified!

Heritage Christian Fellowship - 11104 Menaul NE., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87112
505.323.0557 - maxwell_timothy@hotmail.com