



### Justification is applied or received by Faith

This is to say that the benefits of Christ's sacrifice become benefits realized for us through Faith or trust in Jesus work. We must believe in and rely upon the justifying work of Christ in order for it to be applied to us. This justification by faith is a gift (not earned) by God's free grace.

**Romans 3:21-24** - 21 But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even **the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe**; for there is no distinction; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being **justified as a gift by His grace** through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; NASB

**Romans 3:28** – 28 For we maintain that **a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law**. NASB  
So then, we receive these benefits by faith in what Christ has done and NOT on the basis of any merit in us or by some thing that we could possibly do. **Justification comes to us by grace**(God's unmerited favor), **through faith**(by trusting and believing), **in Christ alone**(Christ is the only object of faith), and NOT on the basis of any good works that we have done.

**Ephesians 2:8-9** - 8 For **by grace you have been saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, that no one should boast. NASB

**Romans 5:1-2** – 1 Therefore **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also we have obtained our **introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand**; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. NASB

In Galatians chapter 5, Paul clearly summarizes that seeking to be justified by the good works of the law, forfeits the value of Christ's sacrificial death on the cross. He clearly states that trying to be justified by the law alienates one from Christ, who alone is the way of salvation.

**Galatians 5:1-5** – 1 **It was for freedom that Christ set us free**; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery. 2 Behold I, Paul, say to you that **if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no benefit to you**. 3 And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law. 4 You have been severed from Christ, **you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace**. 5 **For we through the Spirit, by faith**, are waiting for the hope of righteousness. NASB

### Summary

By the merit of Jesus Christ only, can we be justified (**declared righteous**) before God, NOT on the *basis* of our own good works. It is on the *basis* of His perfect life and sacrificial death that we are justified. He fully met the requirements of the law and made a full payment (**propitiation**) for the penalties of sin, removed our guilt (**expiation**) and by His perfect life merited the righteousness of God for us which is credited (**imputation**) to us **by faith**.

**Philippians 3:9-10** - 9 and may be found in Him, **not having a righteousness of my own** derived from the Law, but that which is **through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith**, NASB