



Justification

Romans 3:21-30

Review:
WHAT Is *Redemption*?

- English word “redemption” means to re-buy, “to regain possession of by repurchase.” (Webster’s Coll. Dict. p. 833)
- ***1 Peter 1:18-19 Redeemed by blood.***

WHAT Is *Reconciliation*?

- *Katallássœ* - "the restoration of the favour of God to sinners" (*Thayer*)
 - to reconcile (those who are at variance)
 - return to favour with, be reconciled to one
 - to receive one into favour
- Produce harmony, return to favor, atonement (*at-one-ment*); : "the state of being at one"
- ***Colossians 1:19-22 Reconciled by blood.***

WHAT Is *Justification*

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- “To deem right, to do justice, to be treated rightly, to show to be righteous, to declare, pronounce righteous” (G. Abbott-Smith, A Manual Greek Lexicon of the New Testament).
- “To judge, to declare, pronounce righteous and therefore acceptable” (Thayer).
- “Be acquitted, be pronounced and treated as righteous” (Arndt and Gingrich)

WHAT Is *Justification*

Our English word:

- 1. to prove or show to be just, or conformable to law, right, justice, propriety, or duty; to defend or maintain; to vindicate as right. 2. to declare free from guilt or blame; to absolve; to clear." (Webster)
- In the **printing industry** it means, "adjustment, as of type, by spacing it so as to make it exactly fill a line, or the cut so as to hold it in place." (Webster)

WHAT Is *Justification*

- Illustration: If one is seeking to justify an opinion, or to justify a course of conduct or justify a statement or to justify a friend, it does **not** mean that he is trying to **improve** the status of the thing spoken of, but rather that he is trying to **vindicate** (show to be right), so as to **acquit or to make free**.
- *Deut 25:1 "If there be a controversy between men, and they come unto judgment, and (the judges) judge them; then they shall **justify** the righteous, and condemn the wicked;"*

WHAT Is *Justification*

- *Deut 25:1* Here we see that the righteous one is not improved, but rather he is **vindicated or he is made righteous in view of the law.**
- "Justification," therefore is a legal term.
- Therefore, the best definition for the word is **to vindicate (show to be right), acquit, or to make one righteous.**

WHAT Is *Justification*

NOTE: Difference between justification as the term is used in the court and as it is used in the Scripture.

- The **just** (righteous) man is **vindicated** in the court of law because of his conformance to law.
- In God's plan the **sinner** (guilty) is made **righteous** or **vindicated** before the throne of God.

Man's NEED For *Justification*

- Isaiah 59:1-2
- After showing that all, both Jew and Gentile, are under the guilt of sin, Paul says that "*no flesh shall be **justified** by the works of law*". (Romans 3:20)
- *Now that no man is **justified** by the law before God, is evident.*" (Galatians 3:11)
- "*Ye are severed from Christ, ye who would be **justified** by the law; ye are fallen away from grace.*" (Galatians 5:4)

Can one be *justified* by works of law?

- Romans 3:19-22 “because by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified in his sight;

...But now *apart from the law a righteousness of God hath been manifested, **being witnessed by the law and the prophets***; even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ unto all them that believe; for there is no distinction” Cf. Rom. 1:16-17

- Cf. Acts 13:38-39; Galatians 2:16

Can one be *justified* by works of law?

What did the law and the prophets witness..?

- *Romans 16:26 "...but now is manifested, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, is made known unto all the nations unto **obedience of faith.**"*
- When one properly understands the OT, *the law and prophets*, one knows this principle of justification by faith has always been God's plan for man to be made acceptable in his sight. (Rom. 1:17, with Hab. 2:4; chapter 4, with Gen. 15:6).

Rom. 1:2; Acts 10:43; 3:18

What is “*obedience of faith?*”

What is faith? Hebrews 11:1

Pisteos: “The state of being someone in whom complete confidence can be placed - **'trustworthiness,** dependability, faithfulness.” (Greek-English Lexicon Based on Semantic Domain) says

“In active sense, faith, belief, **trust,** confidence.” (Abbott-Smith)

“A conviction or belief respecting man's relationship to God and divine things, generally with the included idea of **trust** and holy fervor born of faith and conjoined with it: Heb. 11:1.

(Thayer)

By What MEANS Is One *Justified*?

- The righteousness of God that is revealed in the gospel is "*apart from the law*" (Romans 3:21).
- It is made known through faith in Jesus, and we are ***justified by His grace.*** Romans 3:22, 24, 26
- No room to glory. Romans 3:27; Ephesians 2:8-9
 - NOTE: Abraham. Hebrews 11:17; Romans 4:2, 4
- All justified the same way. Romans 3:30.
Access God's grace "***by faith.***" Romans 5:1-2

WHEN Are We Justified?

Blood is essential to justification.

- Romans 5:9 "Much more then, being now **justified by his blood**, shall we be saved from the wrath (of God) through him."
- Hebrews 9:22 "And according to the law, I may almost say, all things are **cleansed with blood**, and apart from **shedding of blood** there is no remission."

WHEN Are We Justified?

- *Ephesians 1:7* "in whom we have our **redemption through his blood**, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,"
- *Ephesians 2:13* "But now in Christ Jesus ye that once were far off are **made nigh in the blood of Christ.**"

WHEN Are We Justified?

- *Colossians 1:20 "and through him to reconcile all things unto himself, having made peace through the **blood of his cross**;"*
- *Hebrews 9:12 "nor yet through the blood of goats and calves, but through **his own blood**, entered in once for all into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption...."*
- *Hebrews 9:14 how much more shall **the blood of Christ**, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish unto God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"*

WHEN Are We Justified?

- *1 Peter 1:2 "according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of **the blood of Jesus Christ**: Grace to you and peace be multiplied."*
- *1 Peter 1:18-19 "knowing that ye were redeemed, not with corruptible things, with silver or gold, from your vain manner of life handed down from your fathers; but **with precious blood**, as of a lamb without spot, (**even the blood**) **of Christ**:"*
- *1 John 1:7 "but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and **the blood of Jesus** his 17 Son cleanseth us from all sin."*

WHEN Are We Justified?

- Revelation 1:5 "and from Jesus Christ, (who is) the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loveth us, and **loosed us from our sins by his blood;**"
- Revelation 5:9 "And they sing a new song, saying, Worthy art thou to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou was slain, and didst **purchase unto God with thy blood** (men) of every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation,"
- Revelation 7:14 "And I say unto him, My lord, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they that come of the great tribulation, and they **washed** their robes, and made them white **in the blood of the Lamb.**"
- Revelation 12:11 "And they **overcame** him because of the **blood of the Lamb**, and because of the word of their testimony; and they loved not their¹⁸ life even unto death."

WHEN Are We Justified?

- *1 Peter 1:18-19 Redeemed by blood.*
- *Colossians 1:19-22 Reconciled by blood.*
- *Romans 5:9 Justified by blood.*

- One is **justified** when he comes in contact with the blood in baptism! Romans 6:3-4; 6:16-18
- Illustration: The Corinthians. **cf. Acts 18:8;**
1 Corinthians 6:9-11