

## WHAT IS JUSTIFICATION?

**Luke 18:13-14** The tax collector in great distress over sin said, "God be merciful to me a sinner." Jesus said, "This man went home justified before God."

Jesus revealed that justification is instantaneous. The tax collector went home justified.

Apostle Paul explains justification in Romans 3-5. Justification is an act of God whereby God justifies Himself in saving sinners by crediting a believing sinner with the full and perfect righteousness of Jesus. By crediting with righteousness, God is saying that He will complete the work He began at regeneration. By regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification, God brings the believing sinner to a complete state of sinlessness including the eradication of the sin nature. And Jesus living in and through the believer produces righteous acts which are retained as part of his inheritance throughout eternity. Only those acts initiated by Jesus and empowered by Jesus are righteous acts belonging to the believer. Revelation 19:8

God set forth Jesus to be the sin sacrifice who takes away sin for those who have faith in His sacrifice. God declared His righteousness in justifying those who believe in Jesus. Jesus, the sin sacrifice, condemned sin to the fullest by giving His life on the Cross as a holy and sinless man. His sacrifice gave Him authority and power over sin and death triumphing over all evil. Romans 3:25,26;8:3 Col. 2:6-15

Believers have died with Christ and risen to newness of life. God has delivered the believer from all condemnation. Being reconciled to God, we shall be saved by His (Jesus) life. Being justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. Romans 5:9,10; 6:4; 8:1-4

Justification includes credited righteousness(Rom. 4:22-25), removal out from under God's wrath (Rom. 5:9), removal out from under any penalty for sin (Rom. 8:1), new standing with God (Rom. 5:1,2), and even forgiveness of sins (Col. 1:14).

Jesus was raised from the dead so that our justification is assured and so that having righteousness credited to our account can result in an assured fulfillment in our future. Romans 4:25