

## Justification

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*by Wayne Goff*

The noun justification appears only three times in the NKJV of the Bible (Rom. 4:25; 5:16, 18). The meaning of the word is to be made right or just in the sight of God. Now since all men have sinned (Rom 3:23), no man can be justified on his own merit. This is exactly what we learn from the book of Romans when we study these references.

Romans 4:25 says that Christ died for our offenses, and was resurrected for our justification. Romans 5:16 says that justification was God's free gift to man. Romans 5:18 says that through Christ's righteous act the free gift came to all, resulting in justification. Thus we are right in the eyes of God by the blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ!

Justification includes the pardoning of sins, Acts 13:38-39. When one has been forgiven of his sins by Jesus Christ then he has been justified by God. Justification includes salvation from sin, Rom. 3:24. We are justified freely by God's grace in Jesus Christ's redemption.

Justification comes as a result of several things: God's grace (Rom. 3:24; Titus 3:7; Jn. 1:17), Christ's death (Heb. 9:15), Christ's blood (Rom. 5:9; Heb. 9:11-14, 22; 1 Jn. 1:7), Christ's Name (Acts 4:12; 10:43; 2:38), and through the Spirit (1 Cor. 6:11; Jn. 16:8).

There are conditions we must meet in order to be justified. We must have a faith which works obedience (Rom. 5:1; James 2:24). We must repent of our sins (Acts 17:30). We must be baptized to wash away our sins (Acts 10:48). We must continue to love God and keep His commandments (Gal. 5:6; 1 Cor. 7:19; 1 Jn. 2:3-4).

While the noun appears only three times in the Bible, its verb appears fifty-six times, showing that God's work is what avails in our being made right. These are plain, simple truths without which you cannot be saved!

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