

Characteristics of God's Grace

(Part 4)

Justifying Grace

In our first three studies we considered, The covenant of Grace, Regenerating Grace, and Sanctifying Grace, we next spend our time together considering Justifying Grace, God's Grace in Justifying a people, a people who by nature are unjust, a people guilty, a people deserving of God's wrath!

(Jas 2:10) For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

Rom 3:19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

Did you know the Lord Jesus Himself was made under the law? Listen to these words recorded in (Gal 4:4-5) **But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.**

The Lord Jesus was just as accountable to Gods Law as all mankind is, yet He knew no sin! His is the sinless one, everything He did pleased the Father! The only flesh to ever be true to God's Holy law, was the Perfect Righteous God-Man, The Lord Jesus Christ!

Best to understand this word "Justify", we might first consider the word "unjust", "Justify" is an Transitive verb. A word of action meaning to make something that was or is not, Just; "unjust" means; (moral) *evil*: - iniquity, perverseness, unjust (-ly), unrighteousness (-ly), wicked (-ness), *Strongs dictionary*.

Therefore if all have sinned and come up short against God's Holy Law, then all come into this world as "Unjust".

(Exo 23:7) Keep thee far from a false matter; and the innocent and righteous slay thou not: for I will not justify the wicked.

God's Law must be satisfied, God's Holy Justice must be met And this is where God's Grace comes in, our nakedness is not hid, we stand before the Thrice Holy God exposed in our wickedness, dead in trespasses and sin, for us to be accepted of God we must be Justified in His sight!

This is the Question; **(Job 25:4) How then can man be justified with God? or how can he be clean that is born of a woman?**

God gives us the answer through the profit David; **Psa 51:1 *To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba. Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.***

Psa 51:2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

Psa 51:3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

Psa 51:4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

Psa 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Psa 51:6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

Psa 51:7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Psa 51:8 Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

Psa 51:9 Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.

Psa 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Psa 51:11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

Psa 51:12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

Psa 51:13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Psa 51:14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.

Psa 51:15 O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Psa 51:16 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering.

Psa 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Psa 51:18 Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

Psa 51:19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

As do all men. We need to be Justified before God, we cannot do it ourselves, we cannot buy our way Clean, we can't make a decision to be clean, there is nothing we can do because all we are is sin! Even our good works are full of self-righteousness, pride and sin, pastor Gene use to say *"There is enough sin in my little pinky finger tip to condemn me to hell"*.

"the wages of sin is death" folks for one to be Justified before God, the penalty must be paid, the sin dept must be removed! This is accomplished by Justifying Grace through the deliverer, the Messiah, the Son of the Living God! Jesus the Christ! His Substitutionary death for His people paid the Price in Full, completely satisfying God's Judgment! Christ was Judged in our place!

(Isa 53:8-11) He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

In John 3:16 God's word tells us; **"that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"**. So we see there is something we must do, we must **"Believe"** this is the key, do I believe?

(Rom 3:23-28) For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

And where does our faith come from? Did we just decide one day to believe?

(Eph 2:8) For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Folks Salvation is of the Lord and the Lord alone, even our Faith is of Him, that leaves us nothing to boast in of our selves, but all the Glory goes to Him!

(Act 13:32-39) And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee. And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David. Wherefore he saith also in another psalm, Thou shalt not suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption: But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption. Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

(Rom 5:1-2) Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

(Rom 5:8-10) But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

We could go on and on in reading the Lord's Word In this matter, there is so much more than we have time to consider in one or even two studies, so allow me to wrap this up in closing!

The Justification of God's elect as it is with all Salvation is through His Son The Lord Jesus! By His Grace we are saved, This is our peace, He who works all things out according to His own will and purpose, provides all that He requires of us, and fulfills it to His own specifications, perfection, righteous, just!

Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Rom 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Rom 8:32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Rom 8:33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

Rom 8:34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Rom 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

Rom 8:36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

Rom 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Rom 8:38-39 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Folks Keep on Keepin on! You may not feel the Lord is close by, but that's why we trust not the flesh! believe on the lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, Lord I believe, help thou mine unbelief!

(Php 3:1-3) Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe. Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision. For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

The definition of the word “Just” is

1. One who is righteous before God; (Gen 6:9) **These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God**
2. Exact, accurate; (Lev 19:35-36) **Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard, in weight, or in measure. Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin, shall ye have: I am the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt.**
3. Honest, upright; (Luk 23:50) **And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor; and he was a good man, and a just:**

In most revisions men have used the Word righteous in place of “Just”
But wait a minute John was not Lot also called “Just”?

Yes he was

(2Pe 2:4-9) For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrhah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

How can Lot be called “Just” he took what belonged to Abraham, He dallied about when told to leave Sodom, the Angels of the Lord had to drag him out! He got drunk and slept with his two daughters, how could he be “Justified”

Same way you and I are! By God's grace! By the righteous blood of the One who is Just and Justifier!

(Rom 3:24-26) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

(2Co 5:21) For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

(Justifying Grace)