

**WONDERFUL WORDS OF LIFE**  
**The Key Word Series #7**  
July 13th, 2025

**TEXT:** Titus 3:4-7

**CONSIDER THIS:** Have you ever felt guilty for anything wrong you have said, thought or done? Of course you have. Guilt, and a guilty conscience, are a major part of every human's experience. Some people deny or suppress their sense of guilt, but it is always with us. And we should feel guilty because we are all guilty before the holy God against whom we have sinned countless times. But today we will study a truly beautiful and WONDERFUL WORD OF LIFE. It is the only genuine remedy for the guilt of sin, and the word is **JUSTIFICATION**.

**DEFINITION:** Justification is that act by which an unjust sinner is made right in the sight of a just and holy God... to announce a favorable verdict by declaring someone to be righteous... it is not just that a sinner is granted forgiveness and a pardon, he is declared to be perfectly righteous as though he had never sinned.

## **I. GOD IS A RIGHTEOUS JUDGE**

- A) Righteous means morally pure and holy. To stand before God is to stand before One who has no imperfections (Genesis 18:25; Psalm 7:11; Acts 17:30-31).
- B) No man is righteous. The sin nature we are born with is thoroughly corrupt (Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:9-12).

**NOTE:** Romans 1:18-3:20 is written like a prosecuting attorney's case against a criminal... guilty beyond any reasonable doubt! However, Romans 3:21-8:39 is when we hear from the defense attorney who establishes the defendant's "not guilty".

**Q:** How can God be a righteous judge yet declare a verdict of "not guilty"? if God justifies sinners, isn't He violating His own standards? (see Deuteronomy 16:18-20 and Romans 3:26)

**A:** The cross!!

## **II. GOD JUSTIFIES THE UNJUST**

- A) Man has his own methods by which he seeks to justify himself (have right standing with God), and they are all worthless (see Luke 18:9-14).
  - 1. My good works make up for my mistakes
  - 2. My sins are minor
  - 3. I am not as bad as other people
  - 4. In my case I had reasons for what I did so that it was not really wrong

- B) God owns the universe and His perfect character is the standard of perfection, justness and righteousness. God has mercifully and graciously decreed that a perfectly righteous and sinless **SUBSTITUTE** can take the punishment (justice) that guilty sinners deserve, and the righteousness of that SUBSTITUTE can be credited to the account of the guilty sinner.

JESUS IS THE SUBSTITUTE, His sacrificial death was His taking our place and is the basis of our justification.

- C) Carefully read these classic texts on justification
1. Romans 3:20-28
  2. Romans 4:1-8
  3. II Corinthians 5:18-21
  4. Galatians 2:16

Justification is an act of God, the perfect judge, by which He declares unjust sinners to be just and unrighteous sinners to be righteous after He has removed their sin and placed it upon Jesus and has taken the righteousness of Christ and imputed/credited it to sinners.

### III. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE JUSTIFIED?

- A) Because I am a sinner I was once separated from God. But He has justified me because of what Jesus did. Therefore my story is told in Romans 8:31-39.
- B) Someday I will leave this world and stand in the presence of the God who is pure holiness, pure righteousness and who sees and knows all things. What then?

NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO KEEP YOU FROM STUMBLING AND TO PRESENT YOU BLAMELESS BEFORE THE PRESENCE OF HIS GLORY WITH GREAT JOY, TO THE ONLY GOD, OUR SAVIOR, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, BE GLORY, MAJESTY, DEMINION, AND AUTHORITY, BEFORE ALL TIME AND NOW AND FOREVER. AMEN.  
(Jude 24-25)

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