

Justified to be Sanctified

March 21, 2019

Ephesians 2:8-10 ESV

[JUSTIFICATION]

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,
9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

[SANCTIFICATION]

10 For we are his workmanship (poiēma - a product, thing that is made, workmanship), created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

- To properly understand verses 8-10, we must understand the two dynamics of salvation taught in the New Testament:
 - **Justification** - the restoration of our relationship with God
 - **Sanctification** - the result of being restored in relationship with God - progressive holiness
- We are not saved (justified) by works, but we are saved (justified) unto, or for, works (sanctified).
- We are justified to be sanctified. SANCTIFICATION is the living proof that our faith for JUSTIFICATION is authentic and alive.
- Our salvation begins at JUSTIFICATION and is authenticated and consummated by our SANCTIFICATION. Yet our SANCTIFICATION is nothing produced or maintained by our own self-effort. Our SANCTIFICATION is by faith just as our JUSTIFICATION.

Philippians 1:6 ESV

6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 12:1-2 ESV

1 ...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith...

"Grace is not simply leniency when we have sinned. Grace is the enabling gift of God not to sin. Grace is power, not just pardon. Therefore the effort we make to obey God is not an effort done in our own strength, but in the strength which God supplies." —John Piper

James 2:14-26 ESV

14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?

- CSB "Can such faith save him?"
- Faith which does not produce change and corresponding action is worthless and dead. It is not Biblical faith.

15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food,

16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed

for the body, what good is that?

17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

18 But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

19 You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe--and shudder!

- *There is a quasi-faith which acknowledges the factual existence of God, but it is not a Biblical faith, a saving faith, a personal faith which surrenders to the reality of what it acknowledges.*

20 Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?

21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar?

22 You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works;

23 and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"--and he was called a friend of God.

24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

25 And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way?

26 For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

- We are not saved by works, but we cannot be saved without works.
- For faith to be saving faith, it must be faith that is alive, energized and active. Otherwise, it is dead faith.
- Faith is not an empty creed, dogma without substance, words without power or doctrine without accountability.
- Faith is the Divine spark of God's Word illuminated by the Holy Spirit, birthing God's life and nature in the heart.

Romans 10:14-18 ESV

14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?"

17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

18 But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have, for "Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world."

1 Thessalonians 2:13 ESV

13 And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

Colossians 1:5-6 ESV

5 Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel,

6 which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing--as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth...