

# Justification by Faith

April 24, 2022

Galatians 3

## Define terms:

**Accounted** - a: a record of debit and credit entries to cover transactions involving a particular item or a particular person or concern.

b: a statement of transactions during a fiscal period and the resulting balance.<sup>1</sup>

**Justified** – having, done for, or marked by a good or legitimate reason; declared or made righteous in the sight of God.<sup>2</sup>

## Law:

The Mosaic Law was given specifically to the nation of Israel (Exodus 19; Leviticus 26:46; Romans 9:4). It was made up of three parts: the Ten Commandments, the ordinances, and the worship system, which included the priesthood, the tabernacle, the offerings, and the festivals (Exodus 20—40; Leviticus 1—7; 23). The purpose of the Mosaic Law was to accomplish the following:

- (1) Reveal the holy character of the eternal God to the nation of Israel (Leviticus 19:2; 20:7–8).
- (2) Set apart the nation of Israel as distinct from all the other nations (Exodus 19:5).
- (3) Reveal the sinfulness of man (cf. Galatians 3:19). Although the Law was good and holy (Romans 7:12), it did not provide salvation for the nation of Israel. “No one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin” (Romans 3:20; cf. Acts 13:38–39).
- (4) Provide forgiveness through the sacrifice/offerings (Leviticus 1—7) for the people who had faith in the Lord in the nation of Israel. However, these were temporary and what really brought forgiveness was their faith in the Lord
- (5) Provide a way of worship for the community of faith through the yearly feasts (Leviticus 23).
- (6) Provide God’s direction for the physical and spiritual health of the nation (Exodus 21—23; Deuteronomy 6:4–19; Psalm 119:97–104).
- (7) Reveal to humanity that no one can keep the Law but everyone falls short of God’s standard of holiness. That realization causes us to rely on God’s mercy and grace. When Christ came, He fulfilled the Law and with His death paid the penalty for our breaking it (Galatians 3:24; Romans 10:4). By faith in Him, the believer has the very righteousness of Christ imputed to him.

The purpose of the Mosaic Law raises these questions: “Are you trusting in yourself to keep all the Ten Commandments all the time (which you can’t do)?” OR “Have you made the choice to accept Jesus as your Savior, realizing that He has fulfilled all the commandments all the time for you, even paying your penalty for breaking them?” The choice is yours.<sup>3</sup>

**IF “works “of the law “worked”, we wouldn’t need the “work” of Jesus.**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/account>

<sup>2</sup> Oxford Dictionary

<sup>3</sup> [www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org)

That is if I could “right” myself by works I wouldn’t need the Cross. This was Paul’s argument, that the Galatians were saved by faith in Jesus and nothing else could bring salvation, works didn’t work. Anytime we throw in Jesus + we have made the Gospel false.

The Law **condemns** (tutor verse 24).

The Cross **forgives**.

**We are justified by faith.**

Believing what Jesus has done for us. Throwing our self on Him.

*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

**Romans 5:1-2**

Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

God is the only One who can forgive.

Imagine being convicted of murder and being sent behind bars for 40 years. Then someone steps up and says I will take their punishment. It wouldn’t work, first of all you did the crime, not them and they are not God. We are in God’s world. God is the only One who can take our punishment and guilt for our sin. While there may be consequences for sin, God has taken our guilt and ultimate punishment.

**The Law summed up in the Second Commandment, love. God loves others.**

*<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, “‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the first and great commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”*

**Matthew 22:37-40**

Jesus wasn’t after the “law”. He was and is after the heart!

“I am saved by faith alone, but saving faith never remains alone.” Martin Luther.

If I have been saved thru faith, obedience (works) will follow.

How then do I obey and walk with Jesus? Be in tune with the Spirit.

**Prayer Focus:**

- **Have I been justified (made right) with God?**
- **Am I trusting in my works or His finished work?**
- **Am I resting on God’s grace and forgiveness?**
- **Am I loving God and loving others thru grace?**
- **Am I in tune with the Spirit?**