

✧ Justification ✧

- ❖ The term 'justification' means "to vindicate" or "to declare righteous."
- ❖ It translates Greek the word δικαίωω (dikaioō)
- ❖ It is sometimes used in Scripture of man's activity (Luke 10:29; 16:14-15)

✧ Luke 10:29 ✧

But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"



☞ Luke 16:14-15 ☞

Now the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, also heard all these things, and they derided Him. {15} And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God."



☞ Justification ☞

- ❖ The term 'justification' means "to vindicate" or "to declare righteous."
- ❖ It translates Greek the word δικαιόω (dikaioō)
- ❖ It is sometimes used in Scripture of man's activity (Luke 10:29; 16:15)
- ❖ Here the use is obviously a bad sense.

✧ Justification ✧

- ❖ Its primary use in Scripture that concerns us here is in reference to God's activity.
- ❖ Justification is God declaring a sinner righteous.
- ❖ God can declare a sinner righteous because He imputes (λογίζομαι, logidzomai) His righteousness (δικαιοσύνη, dikaiosunē) to the sinner when the sinner believes on Jesus. (Rom. 4:4-5)

✧ Romans 4:4-5 ✧

Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. {5} But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,



Justification

- ❖ In an attempt to sound clever, you may have heard someone define 'justified' as "*just-as-if-I'd*" never sinned.
- ❖ But this falls short of the real import of the term.
- ❖ To merely lack sin ("*just-as-if-I'd*" never sinned) is to be innocent.
- ❖ To possess righteousness is to be justified.

Justification

- ❖ Notice the relationship between the noun 'righteousness' and the verb 'justify' or 'declare righteous.'

☞ Romans 4:4-5 ☞

*Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. {5} But to him who does not work but believes on Him who **justifies** the ungodly, his faith is accounted for **righteousness**,*

δικαιοσύνη, dikaiosunē

δικαιοῦντα (dikaiounta), the participle form of δικαιοῶ (dikaioō)

☞ Justification ☞

- ❖ In addition to 'impute', the KJV uses the terms 'count' and 'reckon'.
- ❖ All three translate the same Greek word. (λογίζομαι, logidzomai).
- ❖ It means "to put to one's account."

✧ Justification ✧

- ❖ When God justifies a believer, God declares him righteous.
- ❖ This righteousness that is credited to him is the righteousness of God. (2 Cor. 5:21)

✧ 2 Corinthians 5:21 ✧

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.



Justification

- ❖ Note that nowhere does the Scripture call this the righteousness of Christ.
- ❖ This gets us into the issue regarding the doctrine of the **active and passive obedience of Christ**.

Justification

- ❖ God is able to regard us as righteous because He gives (imputes) His righteousness to us.
- ❖ It was made possible for us by the work of Jesus Christ on the cross.
- ❖ We cannot earn it for ourselves. (Titus 3:4-5)

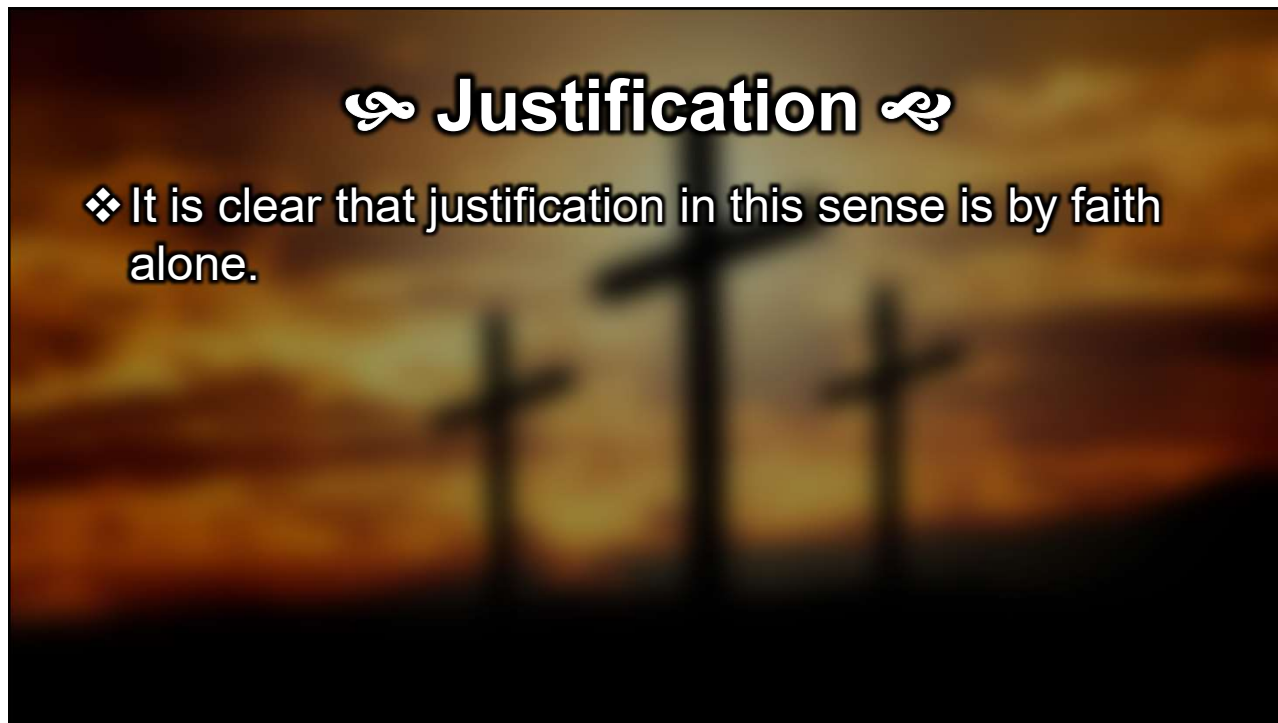
☞ Titus 3:4-7 ☞

*But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, {5} **not by works of righteousness which we have done**, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, {6} whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, {7} that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*



☞ Justification ☞

- ❖ It is clear that justification in this sense is by faith alone.



☞ **Genesis 26:5** ☞

"because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws."



☞ **Genesis 26:5** ☞

*"because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My **charge**, My **commandments**, My **statutes**, and My **laws**."*



✧ **Genesis 15:6** ✧

And he [Abram] believed in the LORD, and He [God] accounted it to him for righteousness.



✧ **Genesis 15:6** ✧

And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.

✧ **Romans 4:5** ✧

But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,



✧ Justification ✧

- ❖ It is clear that justification in this sense is by faith alone.
- ❖ However, James seems to say that justification is not by faith alone. (James 2:24)

✧ James 2:24 ✧

You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.



✧ Justification ✧

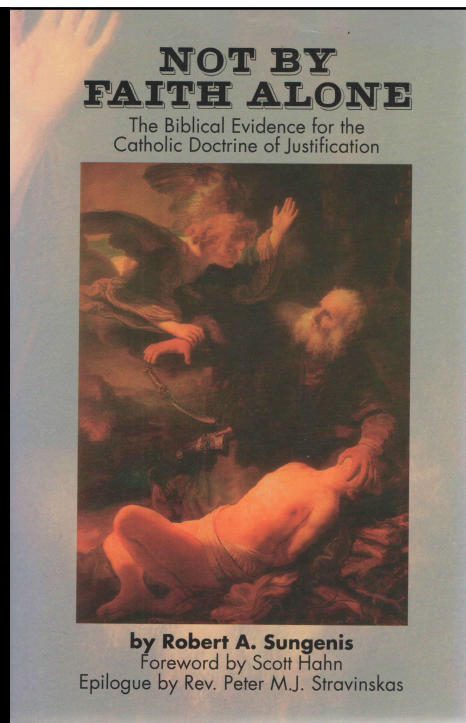
- ❖ It is clear that justification in this sense is by faith alone.
- ❖ However, James seems to say that justification is not by faith alone. (James 2:24)
- ❖ How are we to reconcile this seeming contradiction?

*Sola Fides:
Faith Alone*

"Sola Fides" (faith alone) was one of the clarion calls of the Protestant Reformation in response to the Catholic Church.

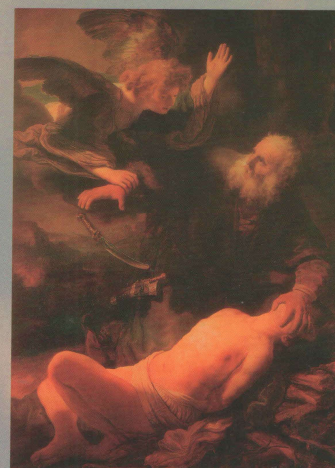


Robert A. Sungenis



NOT BY FAITH ALONE

The Biblical Evidence for the Catholic Doctrine of Justification



by **Robert A. Sungenis**

Foreword by Scott Hahn

Epilogue by Rev. Peter M.J. Stravinskis

It was accompanied by:

Sola Gratia: Grace alone

Solus Christus: Christ alone

Sola Scriptura: Scripture alone

Sola Deo Gloria: God's glory alone

☞ **Romans 11:6** ☞

And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work.



It was accompanied by:
Sola Gratia: Grace alone
Solus Christus: Christ alone
Sola Scriptura: Scripture alone
Sola Deo Gloria: God's glory alone

∞ **Acts 4:12** ∞

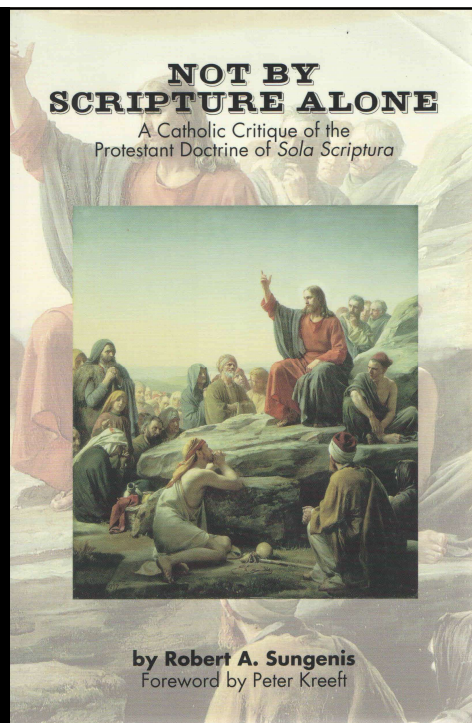
Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."



It was accompanied by:
Sola Gratia: Grace alone
Solus Christus: Christ alone
Sola Scriptura: Scripture alone
Sola Deo Gloria: God's glory alone



Robert A. Sungenis



*One should be careful not to
define or describe Sola
Scripture so as to imply the
denial of General Revelation.*

It was accompanied by:

Sola Gratia: Grace alone

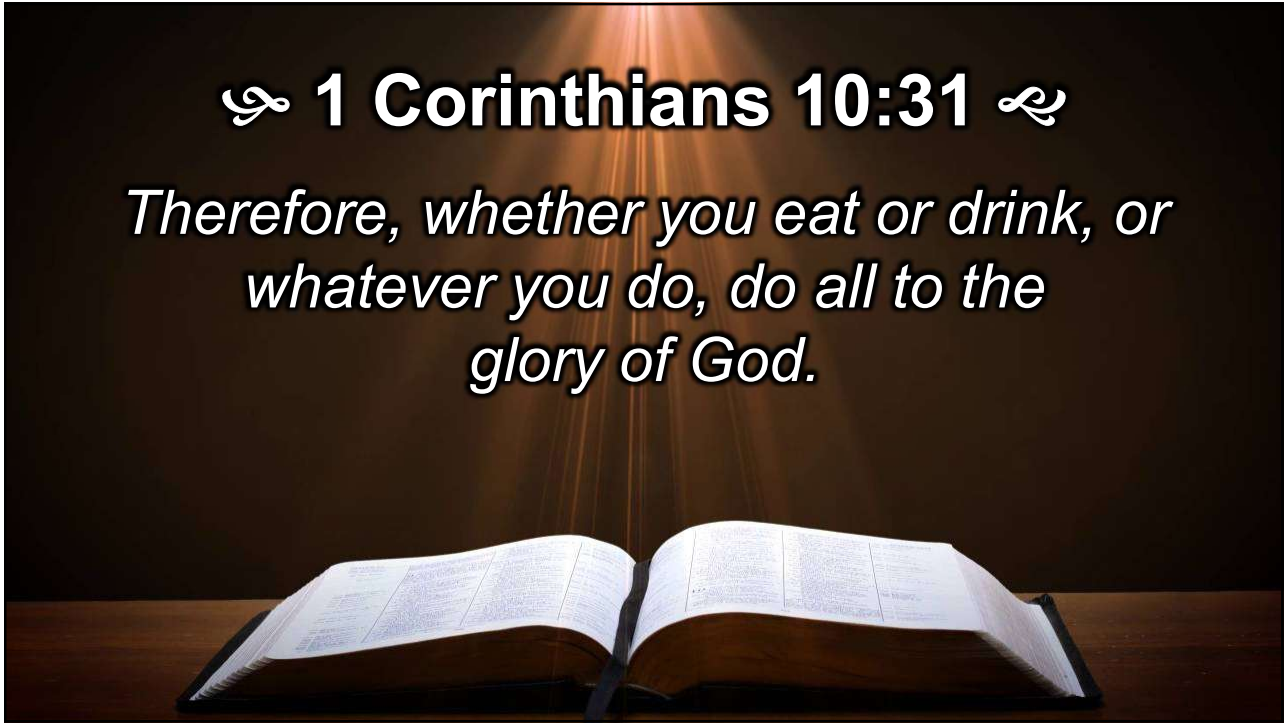
Solus Christus: Christ alone

Sola Scriptura: Scripture alone

Sola Deo Gloria: God's glory alone

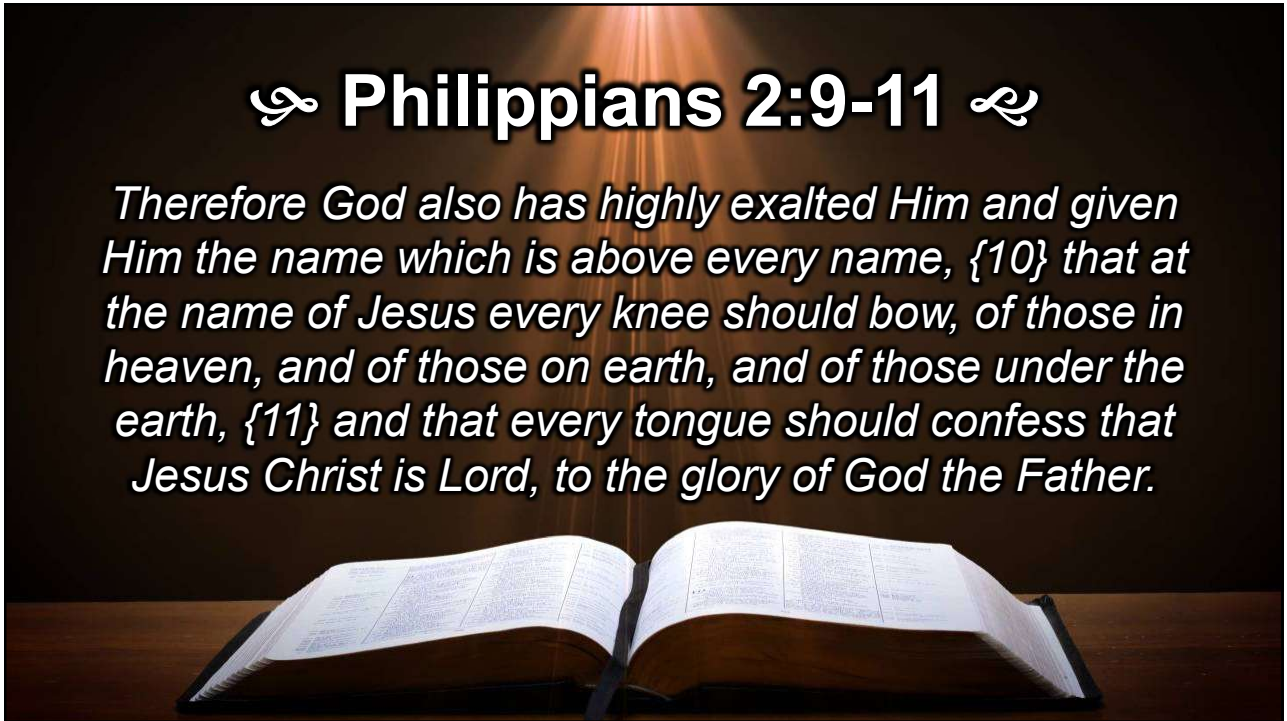
✧ 1 Corinthians 10:31 ✧

Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.



✧ Philippians 2:9-11 ✧

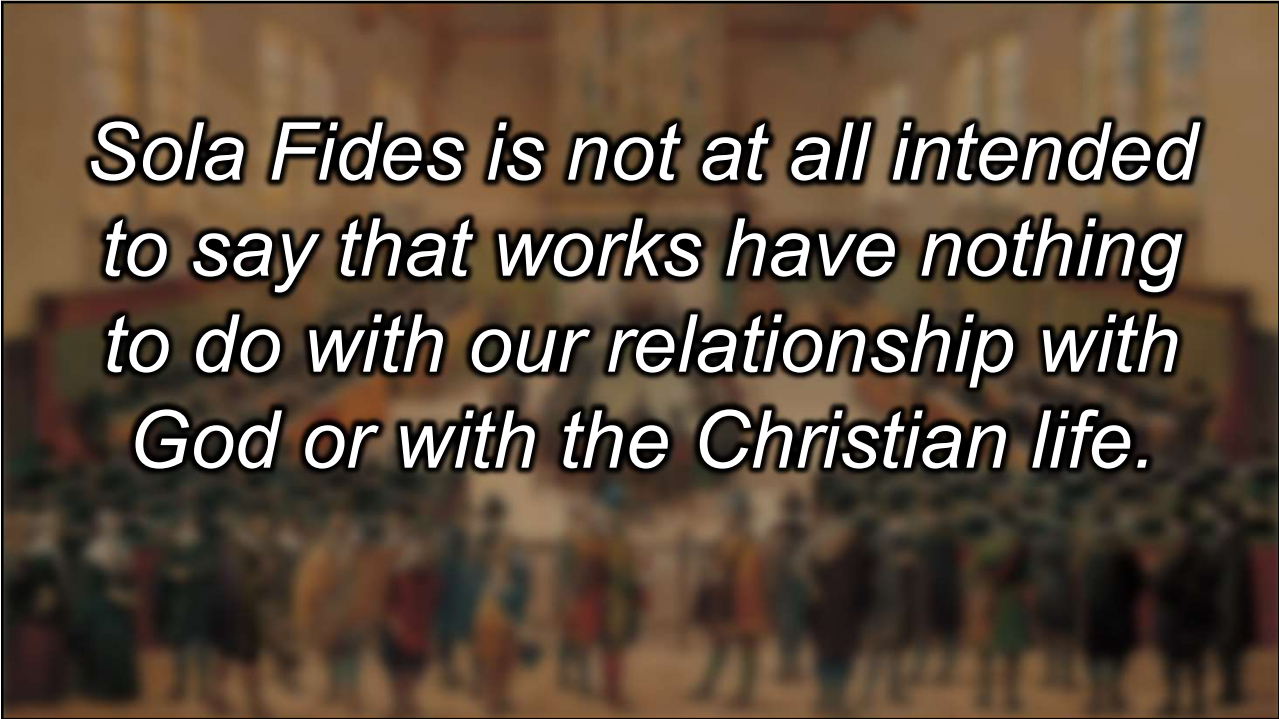
Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, {10} that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, {11} and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



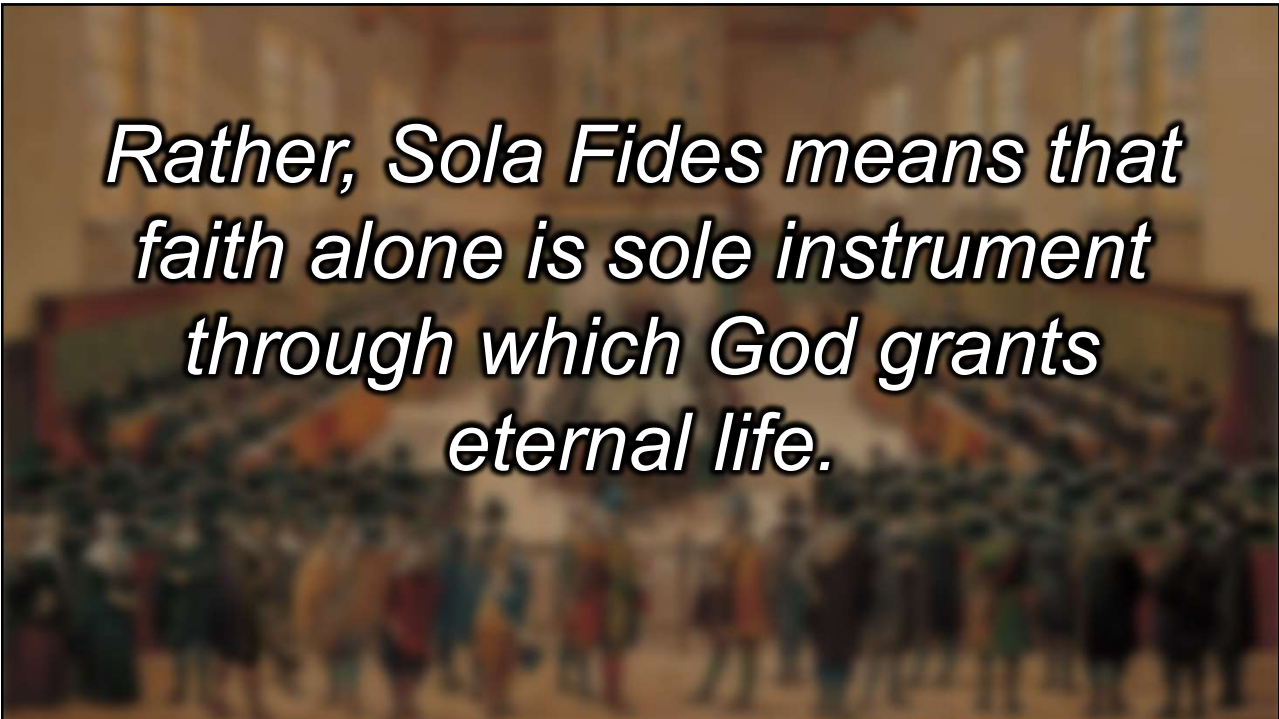
☞ 1 Peter 4:11 ☞

If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

The issue now before us has to do with faith alone regarding how one gains eternal life.



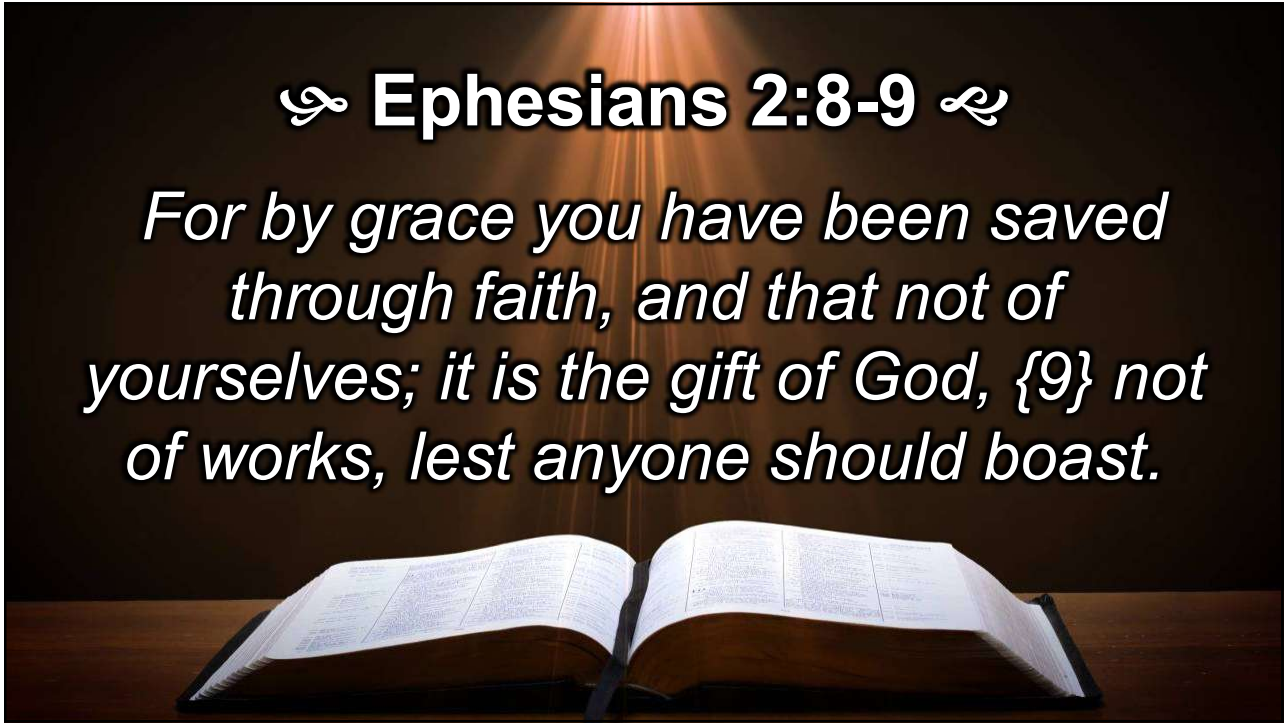
Sola Fides is not at all intended to say that works have nothing to do with our relationship with God or with the Christian life.



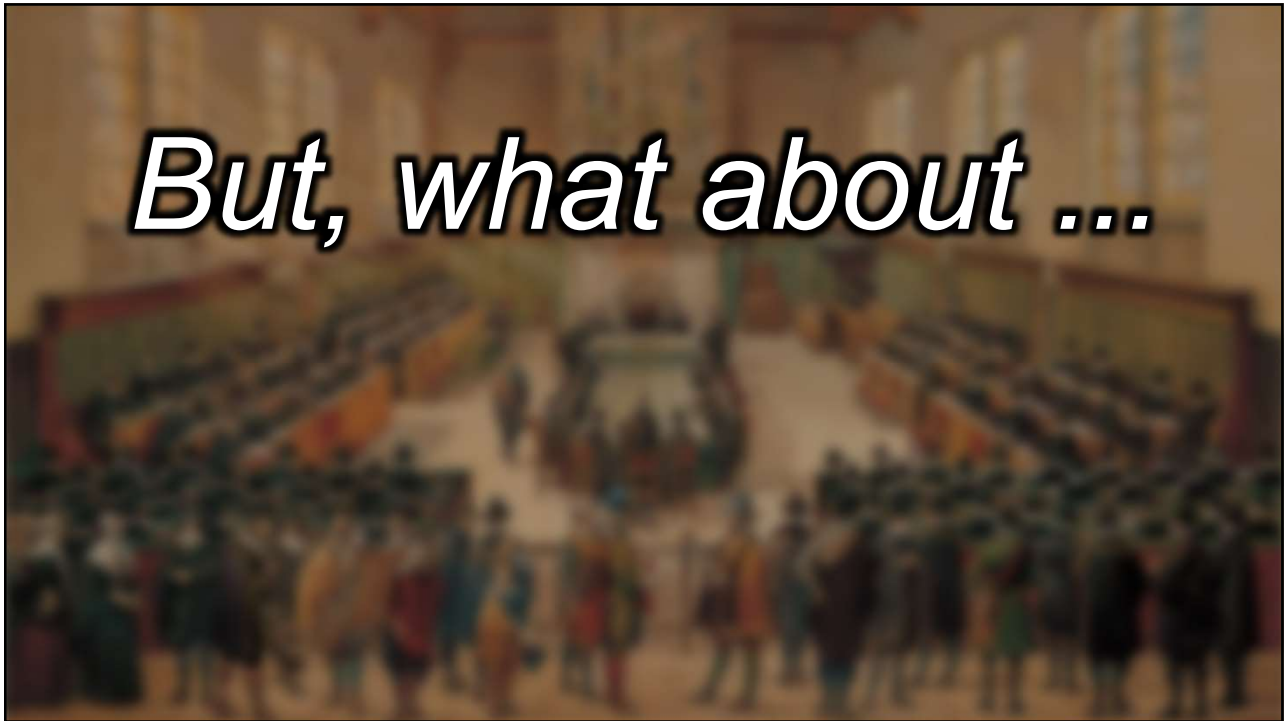
Rather, Sola Fides means that faith alone is sole instrument through which God grants eternal life.

☞ **Ephesians 2:8-9** ☞

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, {9} not of works, lest anyone should boast.

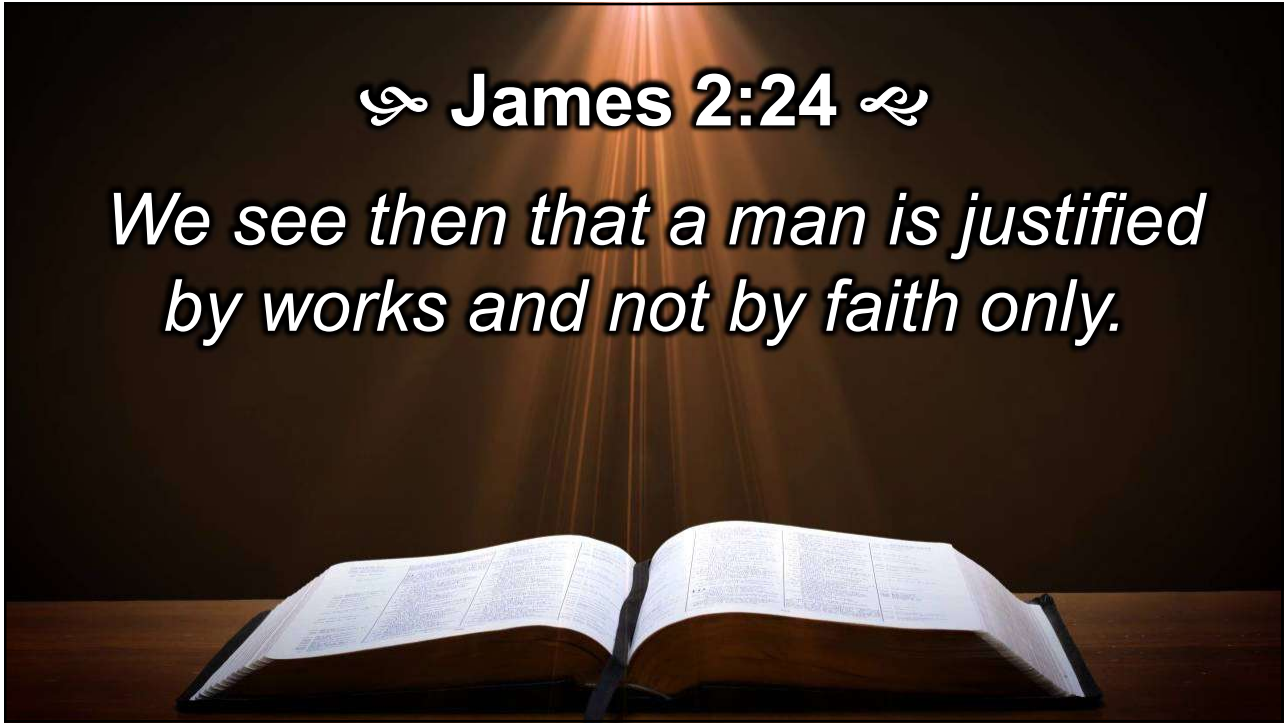


But, what about ...



✧ James 2:24 ✧

We see then that a man is justified by works and not by faith only.



A screenshot of the website Catholics Come Home.org. The background is a night-time photograph of a large, illuminated cathedral with a prominent dome. On the left side, there is a vertical navigation menu with the following items: HOW TO COME HOME, CATHOLIC QUESTIONS, CONFESSION HELP, FIND YOUR PARISH (with an external link icon), WATCH EVANGOMERCIALS™, WHY CATHOLICISM, SHOP, and MORE (with a dropdown arrow). The top left features the site's logo: a white cross inside a circle, with the word "CATHOLICS" in large gold letters and "COME HOME.org" in smaller white letters below it. On the right side, there is a video player. The video title is "Epic National (:60) | Catholics Come Home". It includes "Watch later" and "Share" icons. The video thumbnail shows a religious scene with a man in a white shirt and a woman in a blue dress standing at an altar. A play button is overlaid on the video. Below the video player, there is a text box with the text: "Discover the history, beauty, spirituality and accomplishments of the Catholic Church, founded by Jesus Christ more than 2,000 years ago. We are Catholic. Welcome home." The website URL "Catholics Come Home.org" is also visible at the bottom of the video player.

QUESTIONS

Many Protestants believe we are saved by Faith Alone and they say Catholics believe they can "work" their way into Heaven. How do you answer that?

The Catholic Church does not now, nor has it ever, taught a doctrine of salvation by works...that we can "work" our way into Heaven. Additionally, nowhere in the Bible does it teach that we are saved by "faith alone." The only place in all of Scripture where the phrase "faith alone" appears is in James 2:24, where it says that we are not justified (or saved) by faith alone. The Bible says very clearly that we are not saved by faith alone. Works do have something to do with our salvation. Numerous passages in the New Testament that I know of about judgment says we will be judged by our works, not by whether or not we have faith alone. We see this in Romans 2, Matthew 15 and 16, 1 Peter 1, Revelation 20 and 22, 2 Corinthians 5, and many, many more verses. If we are saved by faith alone, why does 1 Corinthians 13:13 say that love is greater than faith? Shouldn't it be the other way around? As Catholics we believe that we are saved by God's grace alone. We can do nothing, apart from God's grace, to receive the free gift of salvation. We also believe, however, that we have to respond to God's grace. Protestants believe that, too. However, many Protestants believe that the only response necessary is an act of faith; whereas, Catholics believe a response of faith and works is necessary...or, as the Bible puts it in Galatians 5:6, "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is of any avail, but faith working through love..." Faith working through love...just as the Church teaches.

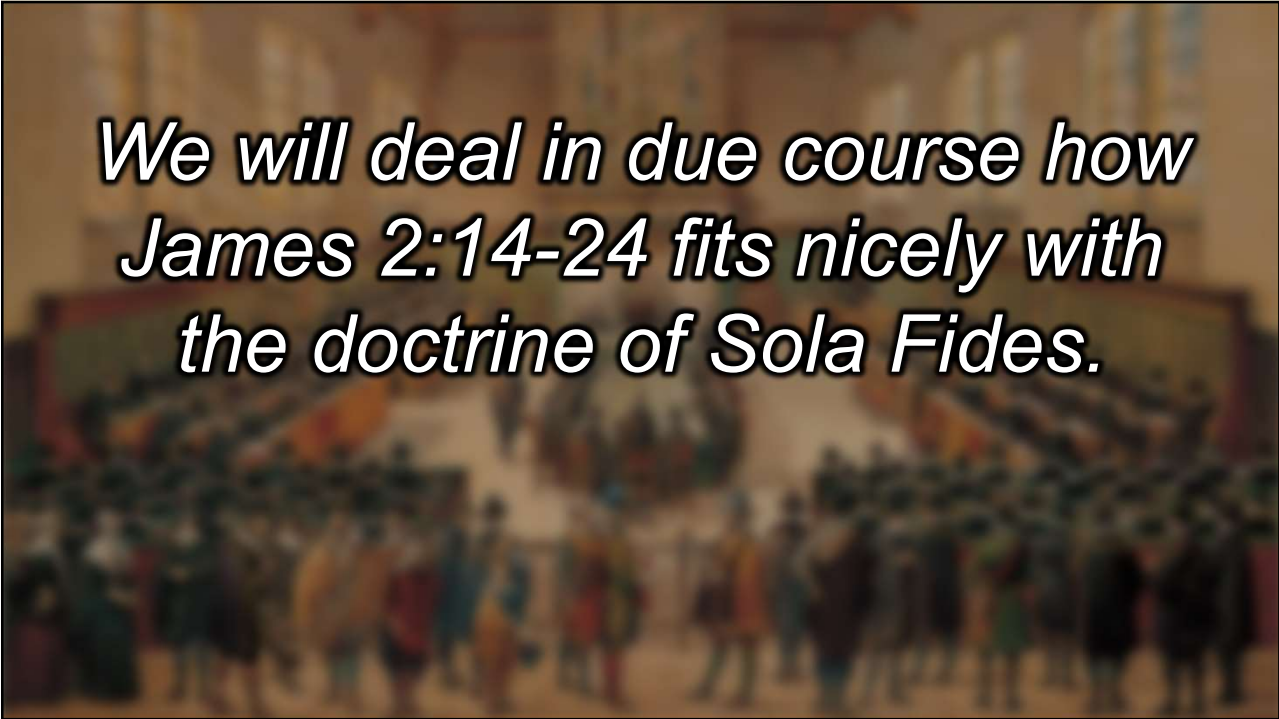
<https://www.catholicscomehome.org/your-questions/church-teachings/salvation/>

QUESTIONS

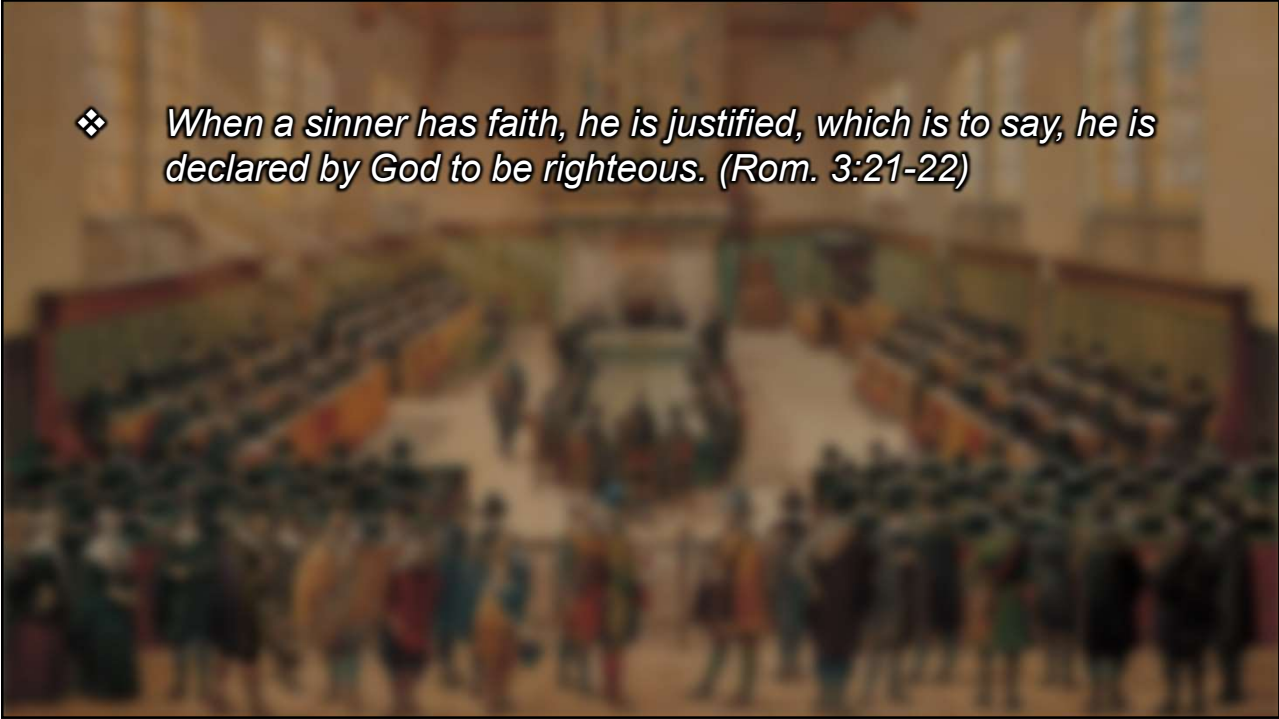
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*We will deal in due course how
James 2:14-24 fits nicely with
the doctrine of Sola Fides.*

- 
- ❖ *When a sinner has faith, he is justified, which is to say, he is declared by God to be righteous. (Rom. 3:21-22)*

✧ Romans 3:21-22 ✧

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, {22} even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference;

- ❖ *When a sinner has faith, he is justified, which is to say, he is declared by God to be righteous. (Rom. 3:21-22)*
- ❖ *God is able to declare sinners righteous because the just punishment for their sins has been borne by their substitute Jesus. (Rom. 3:24-26)*

✧ Romans 3:24-26 ✧

being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, {25} whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, {26} to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

- ❖ *When a sinner has faith, he is justified, which is to say, he is declared by God to be righteous. (Rom. 3:21-22)*
- ❖ *God is able to declare sinners righteous because the just punishment for their sins has been borne by their substitute Jesus. (Rom. 3:24-26)*
- ❖ *Upon faith, the righteousness of God is credited to the sinner because the sin of the sinner is vicariously borne by Jesus.*
- ❖ *Note the term 'vicariously', which means "made or performed by substitution; suffered or done in place of another." (2 Cor. 5:21)*

✧ 2 Corinthians 5:21 ✧

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.



MORE

QUESTIONS

How should I (a Catholic) respond to someone who asks me if I've been saved, or born again?

Answer with a resounding, "Yes!" Tell them that it is through Baptism that you were saved, just as the Bible says in 1 Ptr 3:20-21 and that it is through Baptism, water and the Spirit, that you are "born again," just as the Bible says in John 3:5. You see, many Protestants believe that they are saved by making one single act of faith at one single point in time in their lives. Nowhere does Scripture say such a thing. As Catholics, however, we believe that salvation is a process which begins with our Baptism and continues throughout our lifetimes, just as the Bible teaches us. There are so many places in Scripture, which talk about how one is "saved", but not one of them says we are saved by one act of faith at just one point in time. As I just mentioned, 1 Ptr 3:20 says we are saved by baptism. In Hebrews 12:14 it says that we will not see the Lord unless we are holy, and that we have to strive for this holiness. In Matthew 6:14-15, it says we must forgive others or we will not be forgiven. Can you attain salvation if God hasn't forgiven you? No! So, our forgiving others is necessary for our salvation. 1 Tim 2:15 says that woman will be saved through bearing children, if she continues in faith and love and holiness with modesty. John 6:54 says we will have eternal life by doing something...eating the flesh and drinking the blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In Matthew 19, verses 16 and 17, Jesus is asked directly what one must do to have eternal life. Did He say, accept me into your heart once and that's it? No! Jesus said to keep the commandments and you will have life. Yes, as Catholics we are born again. And, as Catholics we believe that we were saved, as Paul says in Rom 8:24; that we are being saved, as Paul says in 1 Cor 1:18; and that we will be saved, as Paul says in Rom 5:9-10, provided we persevere and keep our eyes on the prize. Salvation is a process, just as Catholics believe, and just as the Bible clearly teaches.

<https://www.catholicscomehome.org/your-questions/church-teachings/salvation/>

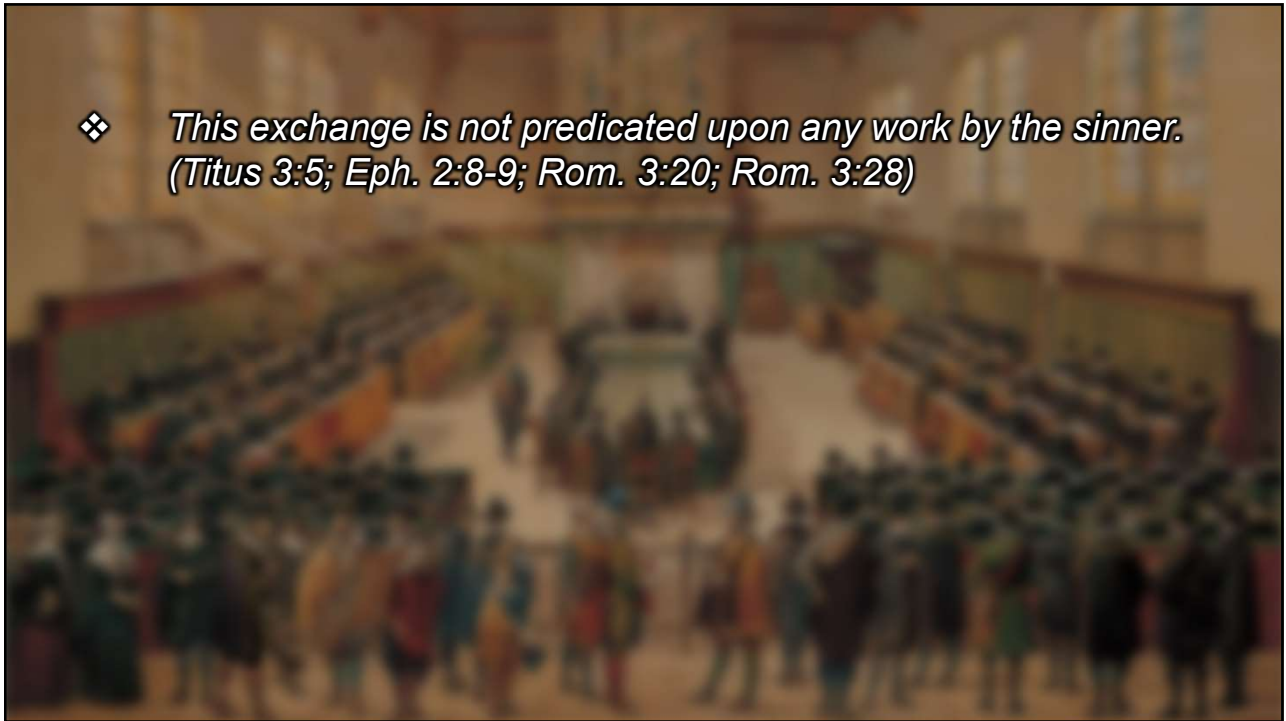
QUESTIONS

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Answer with a resounding "Yes!" Tell them that it is through Baptism that you were saved, just as the Bible says in 1 Pet 3:21 and that it is through Baptism, water and the Spirit, that you are "born again," just as the Bible says in John 3:5. You see, many Protestants believe that they are saved by making one single act of faith at one single point in time in their lives. You have seen Scripture say such a thing. As Catholics, however, we believe that salvation is a process which begins with our Baptism and continues throughout our lifetimes, just as the Bible teaches us. There are so many places in Scripture which talk about how one is "saved" but not one of them says we are saved by one act of faith at just one point in time. As I just mentioned, 1 Pet 3:21 says we are saved by baptism. In Hebrews 12:14 it says that we will not see the Lord unless we are holy, and that we have to strive for this holiness. In Matthew 6:14-15, it says we must forgive others or we will not be forgiven. Can you obtain salvation if God hasn't forgiven you? Yes! So, our forgiving others is necessary for our salvation. 1 Tim 2:10 says that women will be saved through hearing children. If she continues in faith and love and holiness with modesty, John 6:54 says we will have eternal life by doing something, eating the flesh and drinking the blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In Matthew 23: verses 23 and 27, Jesus is asked directly what one must do to have eternal life. Did He say, accept me into your heart once and that's it? No, Jesus said to keep the commandments and you will have life. Yes, as Catholics we are born again. And, as Catholics we believe that we were saved, as Paul says in Rom 8:24, that we are being saved, as Paul says in 1 Cor 1:18, and that we will be saved, as Paul says in Rom 8:24-25, provided we persevere and keep our eyes on the prize. Salvation is a process, just as Catholics believe, and just as the Bible clearly teaches.

<http://www.catholic.com/qa/qa.asp?cat=1&article=110&articleid=110>

- ❖ *This exchange is not predicated upon any work by the sinner. (Titus 3:5; Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 3:20; Rom. 3:28)*



☞ Titus 3:5 ☞

not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,



☞ Ephesians 2:8-9 ☞

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, {9} not of works, lest anyone should boast.





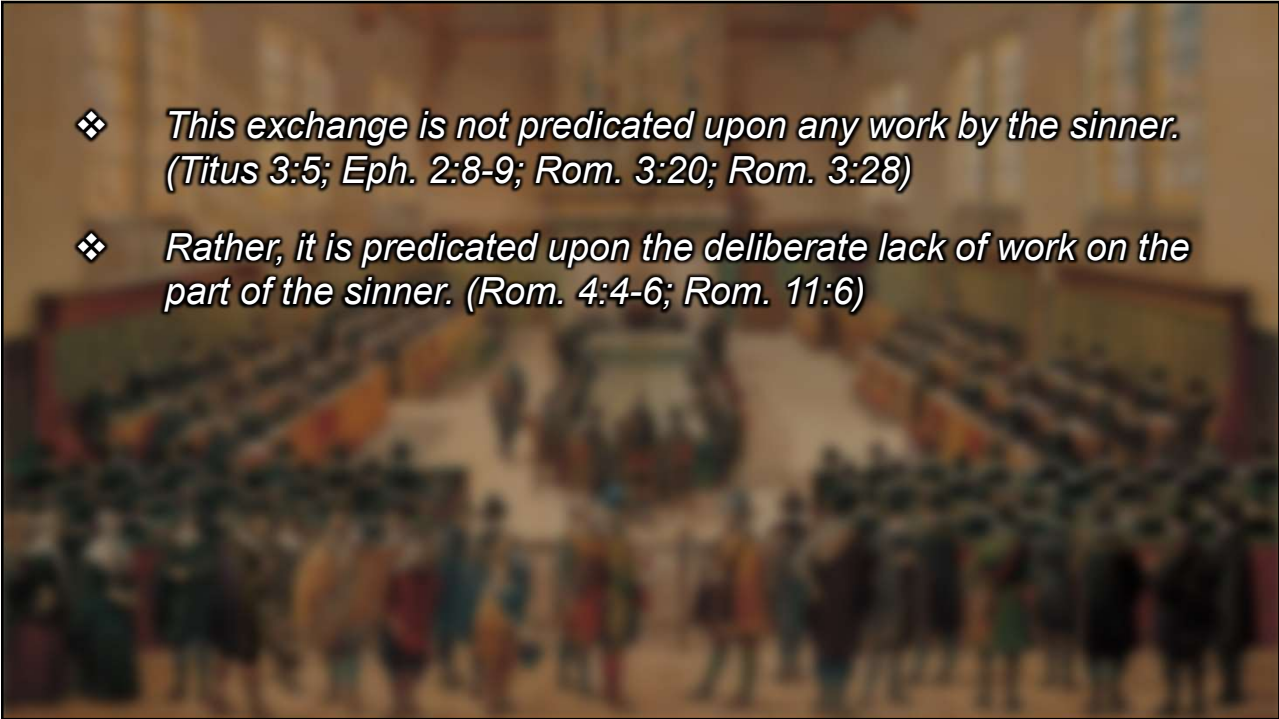
∞ **Romans 3:20** ∞

Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.



∞ **Romans 3:28** ∞

Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

- 
- ❖ *This exchange is not predicated upon any work by the sinner. (Titus 3:5; Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 3:20; Rom. 3:28)*
 - ❖ *Rather, it is predicated upon the deliberate lack of work on the part of the sinner. (Rom. 4:4-6; Rom. 11:6)*

✧ Romans 4:4-6 ✧

Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. {5} But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, {6} just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:



☞ Romans 11:6 ☞

And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work.

- ❖ *This exchange is not predicated upon any work by the sinner. (Titus 3:5; Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 3:20; Rom. 3:28)*
- ❖ *Rather, it is predicated upon the deliberate lack of work on the part of the sinner. (Rom. 4:4-6; Rom. 11:6)*
- ❖ *Instead of work, the sinner believes or trusts. It is important to note that the English words 'believe' and 'faith' are from the same Greek root word.*
- ❖ *What the sinner believes or trusts is described variously in the Bible as:*

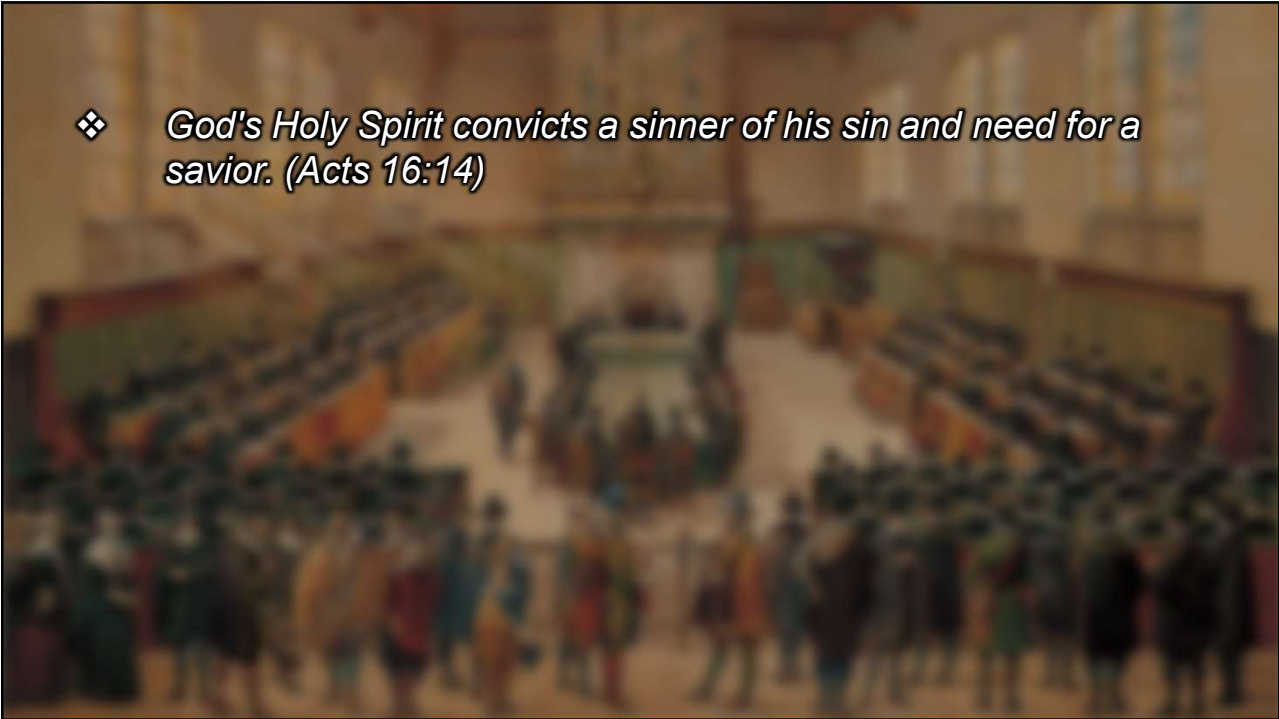
- a. trusting in His name (Matt. 12:21)
- b. believing the gospel (Mark 1:15)
- c. receiving Him (John 1:12)
- d. believing in or into (εἰς) His name (John 1:12 John 3:18)
- e. believing [in] (sic) Him who sent Christ (John 5:24)
- f. believing in or into (εἰς) Him who sent Christ (John 6:29)
- g. believing that He is (i.e., I Am; ἐγώ εἰμι) (John 8:24)
- h. believing in or into (εἰς) Jesus (or in Christ or in the Son) (John 12:11)
- i. believing in or into (εἰς) the light (John 12:36)
- j. knowing God and Jesus Christ (John 17:3)

- j. believing on (ἐπί) the Lord (Acts 9:42; 18:8)
- k. believing on (ἐπί) the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 16:31)
- l. believing [in] (sic) God (Acts 16:34)
- m. believing God (Rom. 4:3)
- n. believing in (sic) (ἐπί) Him who raised up Jesus (Rom. 4:24)
- o. being known by God (Gal. 4:9)
- p. trusting in [ἐν] Christ (Eph. 1:12-13)
- q. believing on (ἐπί) Him (1 Tim. 1:16; 1 Pet. 2:6)
- r. believing that [ὅτι] Jesus is the Christ (1 John 5:1)
- s. having [ἔχων] the Son (1 John 5:12)

- ❖ *The righteousness of God being accounted to him is a necessary and sufficient condition for eternal life for the sinner.*
- ❖ *This imputed righteousness is irrevocable. (We will examine the arguments for this in due course.)*
- ❖ *It might be helpful to see how the notion of justification is understood in the context of other aspects of a person's relationship with God.*

The Program of Salvation



- ❖ *God's Holy Spirit convicts a sinner of his sin and need for a savior. (Acts 16:14)*
- 

Acts 16:14

Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.

- ❖ *God's Holy Spirit convicts a sinner of his sin and need for a savior. (Acts 16:14)*
- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
- ❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*
 1. *The person is said to be "born again." (John 3:3; Eph. 2:5)*

✧ Titus 3:5 ✧

not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,



✧ John 3:3 ✧

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."



✧ James 1:17 ✧

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

✧ John 3:3 ✧

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born **again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

✧ James 1:17 ✧

Every good gift and every perfect gift is **from above**, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

anōthen (ἀνωθεν)

☞ Ephesians 2:5 ☞

even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),



- ❖ *God's Holy Spirit convicts a sinner of his sin and need for a savior. (Acts 16:14)*
- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
- ❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*
 1. *The person is said to be "born again." (John 3:3; Eph. 2:5)*
 2. *He is made a new creation. (2 Cor. 5:17)*

∞ 2 Corinthians 5:17 ∞

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

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- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
- ❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*
 3. *His sins are forgiven. (Acts 13:38)*

☞ Acts 13:38 ☞

Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins;



- ❖ *God's Holy Spirit convicts a sinner of his sin and need for a savior. (Acts 16:14)*
- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
- ❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*
 3. *His sins are forgiven. (Acts 13:38)*
 - *Sometimes the Greek word is translated 'remission'.*

✧ Matthew 26:28 ✧

For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

- ❖ *God's Holy Spirit convicts a sinner of his sin and need for a savior. (Acts 16:14)*
- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
- ❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*
 3. *His sins are forgiven. (Acts 13:38)*
 - ❑ *Sometimes the Greek word is translated 'remission'.*
 - ❑ *Forgiven (remission) means that the sins are taken away.*
 4. *There is also a notion of forgiveness that pertains to the one who already is a Christian. (1 John 1:9)*

☞ 1 John 1:9 ☞

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- ❖ *God's Holy Spirit convicts a sinner of his sin and need for a savior. (Acts 16:14)*
- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
- ❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*
 5. *He is redeemed, which means his release is secured by the payment of a ransom. (1 Pet. 1:18-19)*

∞ 1 Peter 1:18-19 ∞

knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, {19} but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

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- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
- ❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*
 5. *He is redeemed, which means his release is secured by the payment of a ransom. (1 Pet. 1:18-19)*
 6. *The righteousness of God is imputed to him. (2 Cor. 5:21)*

❧ 2 Corinthians 5:21 ❧

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

- ❖ *God's Holy Spirit convicts a sinner of his sin and need for a savior. (Acts 16:14)*
- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
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 5. *He is redeemed, which means his release is secured by the payment of a ransom. (1 Pet. 1:18-19)*
 6. *The righteousness of God is imputed to him. (2 Cor. 5:21)*
 7. *He is reconciled to God and changed from God's enemy to God's friend. (Rom. 5:10-11; 2 Cor. 5:18-19; Col. 1:19-20)*

✧ Romans 5:10-11 ✧

For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. {11} And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.



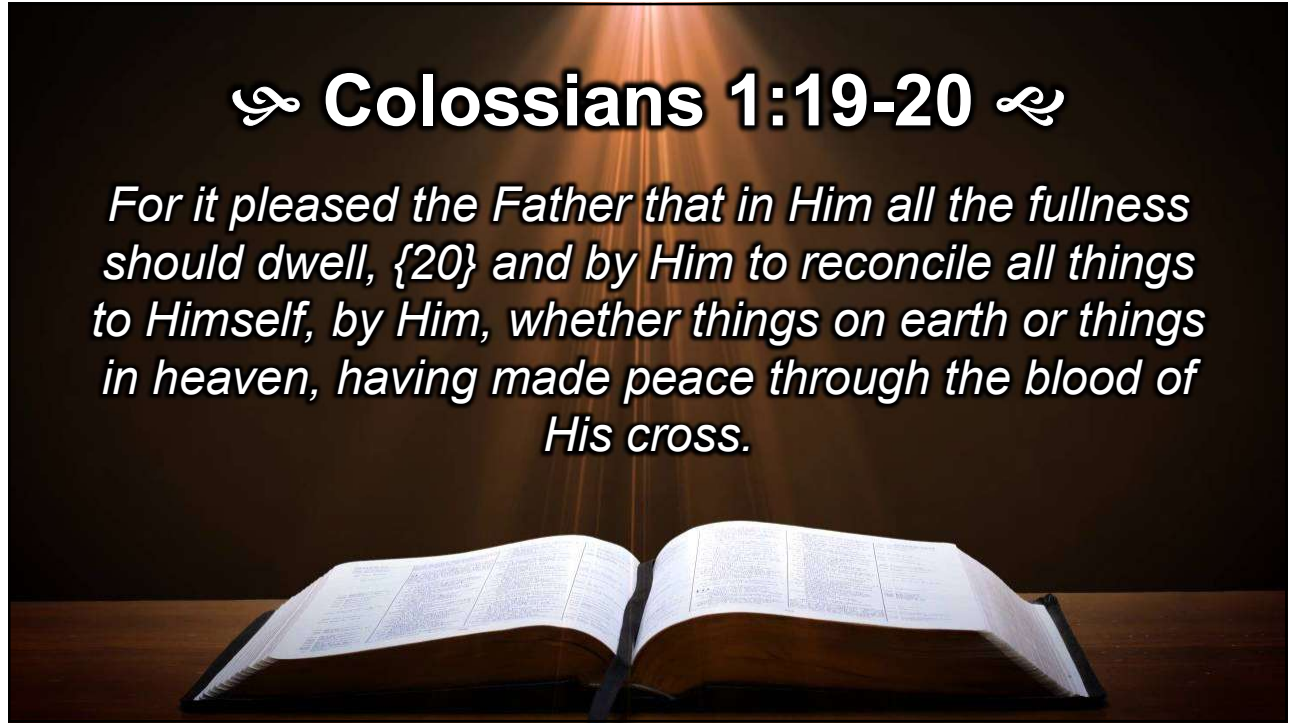
✧ 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 ✧

Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, {19} that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

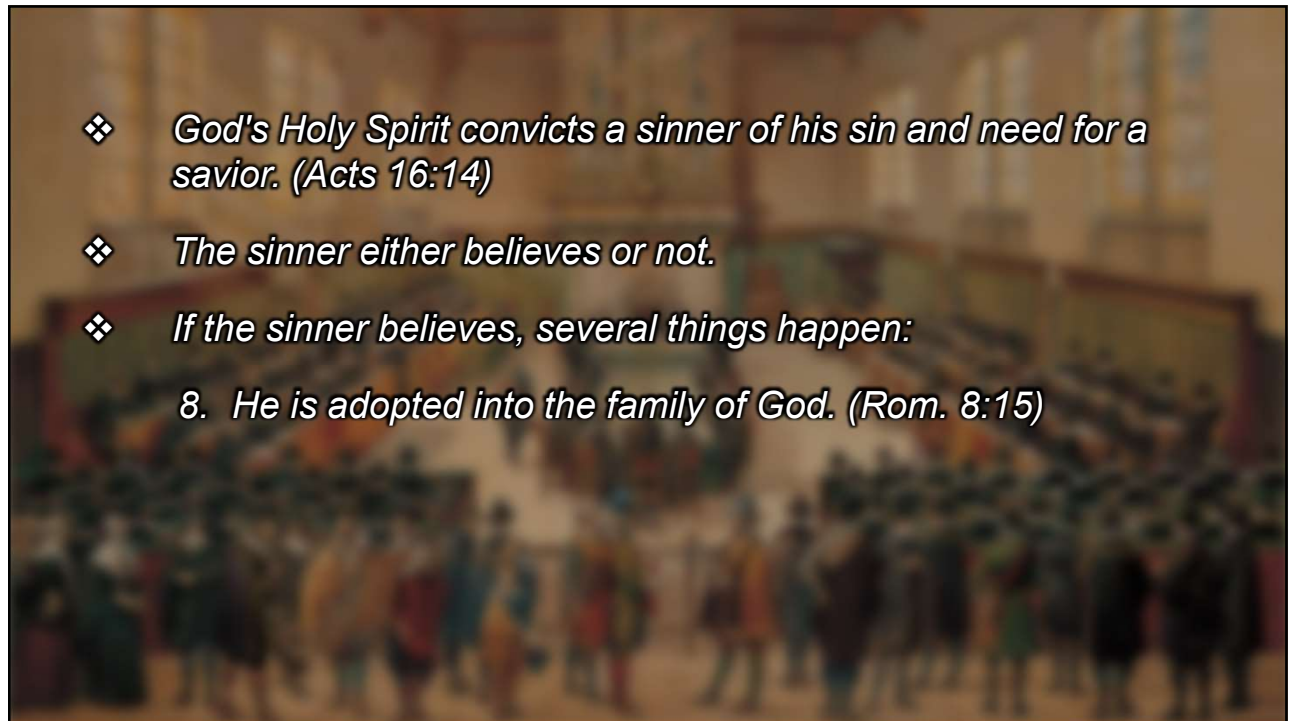


☞ Colossians 1:19-20 ☞

For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, {20} and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.



- ❖ *God's Holy Spirit convicts a sinner of his sin and need for a savior. (Acts 16:14)*
- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
- ❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*
 8. *He is adopted into the family of God. (Rom. 8:15)*



☞ Romans 8:15 ☞

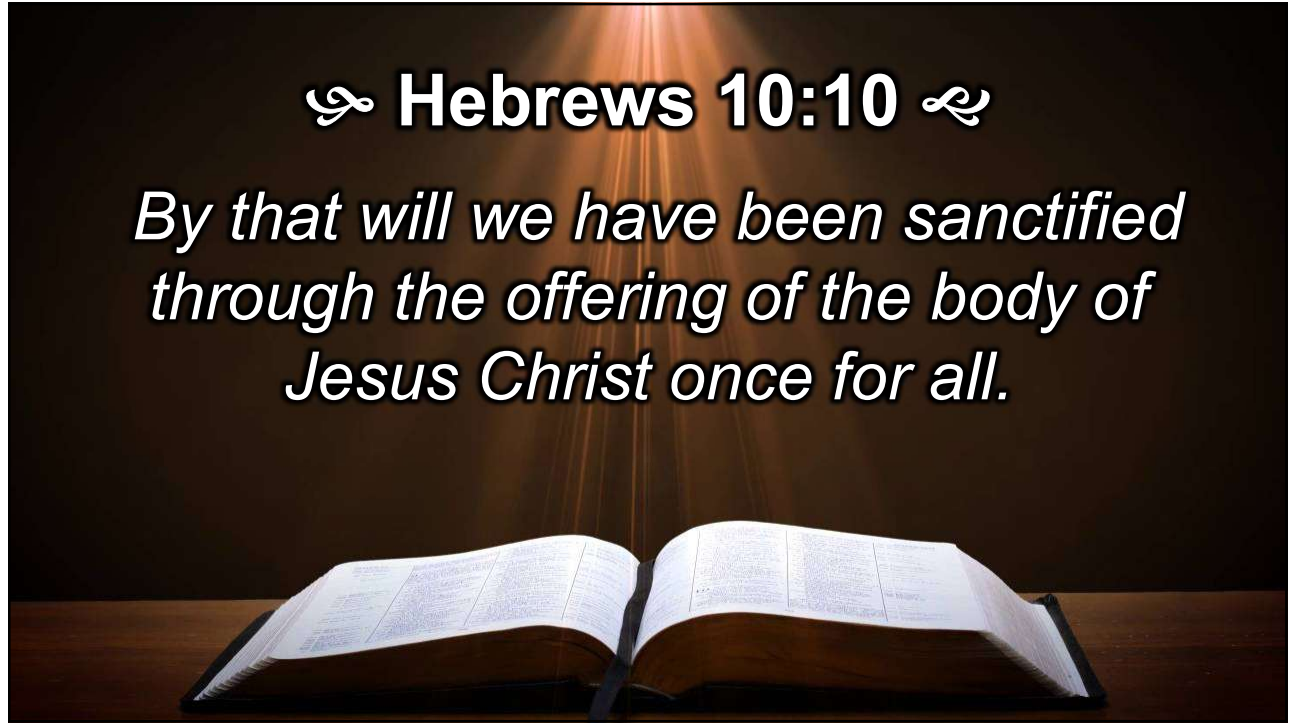
For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."



- ❖ *God's Holy Spirit convicts a sinner of his sin and need for a savior. (Acts 16:14)*
- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
- ❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*
 8. *He is adopted into the family of God. (Rom. 8:15)*
 9. *He is set apart (sanctified) for a life in relationship with God. (Heb. 10:10)*

☞ Hebrews 10:10 ☞

By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.



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- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
- ❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*
 8. *He is adopted into the family of God. (Rom. 8:15)*
 9. *He is set apart (sanctified) for a life in relationship with God. (Heb. 10:10)*
 10. *He begins a process of spiritual growth called sanctification. (1 Thess. 4:3-5)*

☞ 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4 ☞

For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; {4} that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,



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- ❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*
- ❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*
 - 11. At the Lord's coming, he is either resurrected (if he has died) or is transformed (if he is alive). (John 6:40; 1 Cor. 15:51-53; 1 Thess. 4:16-17)*

☞ John 6:40 ☞

And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."



☞ 1 Corinthians 15:51-53 ☞

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— {52} in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. {53} For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.



❧ 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 ❧

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. {17} Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

❖ *God's Holy Spirit convicts a sinner of his sin and need for a savior. (Acts 16:14)*

❖ *The sinner either believes or not.*

❖ *If the sinner believes, several things happen:*

12. It is the destiny of all who believe the Gospel that we will have renewed physical bodies which we will possess throughout eternity. (1 Cor. 15:51-53; Rom. 8:17; 2 Thess. 1:10)

∞ 1 Corinthians 15:51-53 ∞

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— {52} in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. {53} For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.



∞ Romans 8:17 ∞

and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.



☞ 2 Thessalonians 1:10 ☞

*when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified
in His saints and to be admired among all
those who believe, because our testimony
among you was believed.*



*The Biblical
Basis for
Justification*

Justification in the Old Testament

❖ Adam in the Garden: Gen. 2:8-25



Justification in the Old Testament

- ❖ Adam in the Garden: Gen. 2:8-25
- ❖ Abram/Abraham: Gen. 26:4-5; cf. Gen. 15:6, 12; Rom. 4:4-5

✧ Genesis 26:4-5 ✧

And I will make your descendants multiply as the stars of heaven; I will give to your descendants all these lands; and in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; {5} "because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.



✧ Genesis 15:6, 12 ✧

*And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness. ... {12}
Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him.*

✧ Romans 4:4-5 ✧

Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. {5} But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,

Justification in the New Testament

Rom. 3:21-31

∞ Romans 3:21-31 ∞

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, {22} even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; {23} for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, {24} being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, {25} whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, {26} to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. {27} Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. {28} Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. {29} Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, {30} since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. {31} Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.

Justification in the New Testament

Rom. 3:21-31

Rom. 4:1-8

✧ Romans 4:1-8 ✧

What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? {2} For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. {3} For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." {4} Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. {5} But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, {6} just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: {7} "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered; {8} Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin."



Justification in the New Testament

Rom. 3:21-31

Rom. 4:1-8

Eph. 2:8-9

☞ Ephesians 2:8-9 ☞

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, {9} not of works, lest anyone should boast.



Justification in the New Testament

Rom. 3:21-31

Rom. 4:1-8

Eph. 2:8-9

Gal. 2:16

✧ Galatians 2:16 ✧

knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.



Justification in the New Testament

Rom. 3:21-31

Rom. 4:1-8

Eph. 2:8-9

Gal. 2:16

Phil. 3:8-9

☞ **Philippians 3:8-9** ☞

Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ {9} and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;



Justification in the New Testament

Rom. 3:21-31

Rom. 4:1-8

Eph. 2:8-9

Gal. 2:16

Phil. 3:8-9

Titus 3:5

✧ Titus 3:5 ✧

not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,





What Happens When a Christian Sins?

✓ Sin causes the loss of reward, not the loss of justification or eternal life. (1 Cor. 3:12-15)

✧ 1 Corinthians 3:12-15 ✧

Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, {13} each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. {14} If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. {15} If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

- ✓ *Sin causes the loss of reward, not the loss of justification or eternal life. (1 Cor. 3:12-15)*
- ✓ *Sin may cause temporal judgment in this life, including physical death. (1 Cor. 11:29-30; James 5:19-20; 1 John 5:16)*

✧ 1 Corinthians 11:29-30 ✧

For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. {30} For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.



✧ James 5:19-20 ✧

Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, {20} let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.



☞ 1 John 5:16 ☞

If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin which does not lead to death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not leading to death. There is sin leading to death. I do not say that he should pray about that.



Eternal Life
vs.
Discipleship

Eternal life is free.

☞ John 4:10 ☞

"Jesus answered and said to her, 'If you knew the **gift** of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.'"

☞ Acts 11:17 ☞

"If therefore God gave them the same **gift** as He gave us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?"

☞ Romans 5:15-18 ☞

"But the **free gift** is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the **gift** by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. And the **gift** is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the **free gift** which came from many offenses resulted in justification. For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the **gift** of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the **free gift** came to all men, resulting in justification of life."

☞ Romans 3:24 ☞

"being justified **freely** by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus"

☞ Romans 6:23 ☞

"For the wages of sin is death, but the **gift** of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

☞ Ephesians 2:8-9 ☞

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the **gift** of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."

☞ Revelation 21:6-7 ☞

"And He said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life **freely** to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.'"

☞ Revelation 22:17 ☞

"And the Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life **freely**."

Discipleship has a cost.

☞ Matthew 10:37-39 ☞

"He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it."

☞ Mark 8:34-38 ☞

"When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, 'Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.'"

☞ Luke 14:26-33 ☞

"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it; lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple."