**Second Dimension – Christianity Experienced**

**Segment V – The Golden Chain of Redemption (Concepts 44-53)Progressive Bible Concepts - #47 “Justification”**

***The Work of Redemption “The Order of Salvation”*** ***‘The Ordo Salutis’***

“The s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in God’s p\_\_\_\_\_\_ of salvation.”





**Initial Steps in Our Salvation:**

* Lost Condition - *“D\_\_\_\_\_\_ in our s\_\_\_\_\_\_”* - Total Depravity – sin has affected all aspects of our being – ‘god- less’ or without God
* Outward Call – *“C\_\_\_\_\_\_ unto M\_\_”* - The F\_\_\_\_\_\_ O\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Gospel - God’s gracious offer of s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in which He invites lost sinners to accept the salvation that is offered in Christ Jesus.
* Inward Call – ‘*believing with the heart and confessing with the mouth”* The Holy Spirit bearing witness to the preaching of the gospel in the hearts of listeners.
* Regeneration – *“B\_\_\_\_\_\_ A\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”* – The L\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God in the S\_\_\_\_\_\_ of man
* Conversion – *“…you shall be saved…”* - Calling upon the Lord in f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Justification:**

* What does it mean to justify something?
* When is the last time you had to justify something you said or did?
* Can you suggest any synonyms for ‘justify’?
	+ vindicate – to c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from a charge
	+ exculpate (ex – from; culpate – g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
	+ absolve (ab – from; solver – l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
	+ exonerate (ex – off; onus – b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
	+ discharge (dis – opposite of; carrier – l\_\_\_\_\_\_)



**Justification “Positional Righteousness”: Having been justified by faith…” Romans 5:1**

* Definition -A l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ act of God by which He declares the sinner righteous on the basis of the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ.
* Simultaneous with conversion, it is an instantaneous action that secures our favorable s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ before God.

**2 Key Aspects:**

1. Forgiveness of sin, r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from all guilt associated with our sinfulness
2. Imputed righteousness “c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to our account – *Romans 4:3*

**Benefit – “By justification, we are freed from the P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of sin.”**

**Justification – Historical Perspective**

* *Middle Ages misconception*
	+ *Latin – justificare – to make righteous – change of one’s c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
* *Reformation correction*
	+ *Greek – dikaiosis – to regard as righteous – change of one’s s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Justification – OT:**

* *“How can a man be j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with God…?”* Job 25:4
* *“If there is a dispute between men and they go to court, and the judges decide their case, and they j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the righteous and c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the wicked…”*Ex 25:1
* *“Then he believed in the Lord; and He r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it to him as r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”* Genesis 15:6, Rom 4:3, Gal 3:6, James 2:22, 23
* *“But as for the proud one, his soul is not right within him, but the righteous man shall l\_\_\_\_\_\_ by His faith...”* Habakkuk 2:4, Rom 1:17, Gal 3:11

**Justification – NT**

* *“And he told this parable to certain ones who t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt; “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 12I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.’ 13But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, the sinner!’ 14I tell you, this man went to his house j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”* Luke 18:10-14

**Justification – Biblical Basis**

* *“Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, so that every mouth may be closed and all the world may become accountable to God; 20because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin. 21But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22even the righteousness of God t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; 23for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24being j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;” Romans 3:19-24*

**Justification – Abraham**

* *What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found? 2For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. 3For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” 4Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. 5But to the one who does not work, but b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Him who j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the u\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, his faith is credited as righteousness, 6just as David also speaks of the blessing on the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:*

***7“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds have been forgiven,
And whose sins have been covered.
8“Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will not take into account.”***

*Romans 4:1-8*

**Justification – Adam & Jesus:**

* *17For if by the transgression of the one (Adam), death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. So then as through one transgression there resulted* ***condemnation*** *to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted* ***justification*** *of life to all men.For as through the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.” Rom 5:17-19*

**Justification – Epistles:**

* *“He made Him who knew no sin to b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sin on our b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, that he might become the r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God in Him.” II Cor 5:21*
* *“…nevertheless, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus, that we may be j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by faith in Christ, and not by works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified.” Gal 2:16*
* *“Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through Him forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and through Him everyone who b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is*

*j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from all things, from which you could not be freed through the Law of Moses.” Acts 13:38,3*

* ”*But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that being j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by His grace, we might be made h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ according to the hope of eternal life.” Titus 3:5-7*
* *“Was not Abraham our father j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_…” James 2:21,22*

**Justification – Observations**

**Justification:**

* Is a l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ act
* Done with reference to our legal s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ before the law
* It takes place in the heavenly c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of justice, the divine t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or bench
* It is d\_\_\_\_\_\_ by God – “God is the One Who justifies, who is the One Who condemns?” Rom 8:33, 34
* The s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of justification – How can a righteous God declare a guilty sinner righteous? This seemingly c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God’s own nature, character, and standard.
* However, God declaring sinners to be righteous, not only does not contradict His own righteousness but rather dramatically d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it – Rom 3:26
* God is able to do this by virtue of a t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ exchange of Jesus’ righteousness with the sinner’s unrighteousness through which Jesus effectively assumes the burden of sinner’s unrighteousness and sinners assume the benefit of His righteousness.
* There is therefore now no c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**Justification – How It Works**

**Justification:**

* Law – P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Sinner – V\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Jesus – S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* God – J\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Believer – I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Justification – Objections:**

* **Objection #1** - It is said that if man is justified on the merits of Christ, he is not saved by grace.
	+ **Response** – “…being justified as a gift by His g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus…” Rom 3:24
* **Objection #2** – It is said to be unworthy of God to declare sinners righteous.
	+ **Response** – “…for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, that He might be j\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the one who has faith in Jesus.” Rom 3:26
* **Objection #3** – Finally, it is said that this doctrine is apt to make people indifferent in their moral lives.
	+ Response – “Are we to continue in that grace might increase? May it never be! How shall we who d\_\_\_\_\_\_ to sin still l\_\_\_\_\_\_ in it?

**Justification – Benefits**

**Justification:**

* It is not a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ action
* We now have p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with God – Rom 5:1
* We now have f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – Rom 4:7
* We now have f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with God – Rom 4:4,5
* We now have a righteous s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ before God – Rom 4:5
* We have been a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into God’s family – Gal 4:4,5

**Justification – Illustrations & Quotes:**

* Speeding Ticket
* Rolls Royce
* Charles Grandison Finney’s conversion

**Justification – Quotes**

**Justification or Acquittal:**

* Legal tern meaning “acquittal,” a declaration that someone is in the r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Sinners are in the wrong before God. They have broken His laws, they deserve punishment, but on the cross Christ took their place. Now, when they put their trust in Christ, they are declared to be in the right, acquitted, justified. The cross shows God to be just, not simply in the fact that He forgives, but in the way He forgives. To pass over sins would show mercy, but it would not show justice. Forgiveness by the way of the cross shows both mercy and justice (Rom 3:25-26).

**Justification – ‘*j\_\_\_\_\_\_ a\_\_ i\_\_ I n\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*’**

**Summary** – **Concept 47**

* Justification refers to the gracious act of a righteous God who declares unrighteous sinners to be righteous through faith in Jesus.

**Next Week – Concept 48**

* Adoption and Sanctification