

Justification – Being declared ‘righteous’ or ‘in right standing’



GALATIANS
3:1-14

The Gospel Precedes the Law

- Abraham believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness.
 - Believed God – had faith, trusted in, was committed to God
 - Credited to him as righteousness – was justified, declared to be in right standing w/God
- All nations on the earth will be blessed through you.
 - All nations – the Gentiles
 - Will be blessed through Abraham – will be justified, brought into right relationship w/God in the same way Abraham was (through faith)



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There is really one only path to right relationship with God

- Justification through obedience to the Law can *only* lead to rejection by God because:
- **No one can keep the Law perfectly**
 - Cursed (rejected by God) is *everyone* who does not *continually* do *everything* written in the Book of the Law.
- **That path is based on self-effort, not trust**
 - The righteous (those who have been justified) will live by faith (trusting in God). However, the person who does these things (keeps the Law) will live by them (their own efforts.)



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Jesus came to redeem us from the path of obedience

- Jesus redeemed us (bought us back) from the curse of the Law (rejection by God) by becoming a curse for us (being rejected by God in our place)
- He became a curse through the crucifixion – cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole/tree; My God, My God why have You forsaken Me?’
- Results of crucifixion
 - We receive the blessing given to Abraham – justification through faith
 - We receive the Holy Spirit – confirms our right relationship with God



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