

JUSTIFICATION: BY FAITH, SACRAMENTS OR BOTH?

Selected passages

I. THE BIBLES ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION OF SALVATION:

- A. The most important question in life that we must answer.
- B. The Bible teaches one narrow road to justification and it is through faith. (*Jn. 3:16; Acts 16:31; Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 3:28; Rom. 10:9; Gal. 2:16; Phil. 3:9*)
- C. The danger of adding works to salvation and why we see it as a divisive doctrine.

II. WHAT BROUGHT WORKS INTO THE CHURCH AS A NEED:

- A. Understanding how works changed relationship to religion in history.
 - 1. The marriage of the church through Constantine in 313AD:
 - 2. The split of the eastern and western church in 1054AD:
 - 3. The need to reformation by which Martin Luther emerges in 1517AD:
 - 4. The counter reformation at the council of Trent (Sacraments for salvation) 1545-1563AD:
 - 5. The Vatican 1 council confirms infallibility and primacy of the pope 1870AD:
 - 6. The Vatican 2 council confirms indulgences to remit punishment for sin 1962-1965:
- B. The relationship of the church became the replacement for a relationship with God:
 - 1. The need of confession for temporary punishment:
 - 2. Purgatory and its use:
 - 3. Indulgences and why they were abused:
 - 4. Sacraments being related to salvation:
- C. The true fallacy of the post Constantine church era was that Christ was not enough:
 - 1. We see this in our earlier study with Mariology:
 - 2. We see this with the addition of purgatory:
 - 3. We see this with works asserted in indulgences and sacraments:

III. APPLICATIONS:

- A. To include works into salvation is to neglect faith in Christ alone but faith in works and Christ, which negates the formula of true salvation.
- B. The church is not the means of salvation but the tool that Christ Jesus uses to reach the world for Christ through the message of the gospel.