

Justification and Regeneration

I. Justification

A. The definition

Romans 3:24

Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

Galatians 3:13

Christ has redeemed us out of the curse of the law, having become a curse on our behalf; because it is written, "Cursed is everyone hanging on a tree";

1 Peter 3:18a

For Christ also has suffered once for sins, the Righteous on behalf of the unrighteous, that He might bring you to God...

2 Corinthians 5:21

Him who did not know sin He made sin on our behalf that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

1 Corinthians 1:30

But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom to us from God: both righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

Isaiah 61:10 a

I will rejoice greatly in Jehovah, My soul will exult in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with the robe of righteousness...

Jeremiah 23:5-6b

5 Indeed, days are coming, declares Jehovah, When I will raise up to David a righteous Shoot; And He will reign as King and act prudently, And will execute justice and righteousness in the land.
6 ...And this is His name by which He will be called, Jehovah our righteousness.

Philippians 3:9

And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is out of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is out of God *and based* on faith,

B. The example

Romans 4:3, 20, 22-25

3 For what does the Scripture say? "And Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him as righteousness"
20 But with regard to the promise of God, he did not doubt in unbelief, but was empowered by faith, giving glory to God
22 Therefore also it was accounted to him as righteousness
23 Now it was not written for his sake only that it was accounted to him,
24 But for ours also to whom it is to be accounted, who believe on Him who has raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,
25 Who was delivered for our offenses and was raised for our justification.

C. The result

Romans 5:1-2

1 Therefore having been justified out of faith, we have peace toward good through our Lord Jesus Christ,

- 2 Through whom also we have obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand and boast because of the hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:18b

...so also *it was* through one righteous act unto justification of life to all men.

II. Regeneration

- A. The definition – to have the life of God in addition to our natural life

John 1:12-13

- 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the authority to become children of God, to those who believe into His name,
- 13 Who were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 3:15

That everyone who believes into Him may have eternal life.

- B. The accomplishment

1. Through the resurrection of Christ

1 Peter 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has regenerated us unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Ephesians 2:5-6

- 5 Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)
- 6 And raised *us* up together with *Him* and seated *us* together with *Him* in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,

2. Through God's Spirit in our spirit

John 3:1-6

- 1 But there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.
- 2 This one came to Him by night and said to Him, Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher, for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.
- 3 Jesus answered and said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.
- 4 Nicodemus said to Him, How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?
- 5 Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
- 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

3. Through God's word of life

1 Peter 1:23

...regenerated...through *the* living and abiding word of God.

James 1:18a

He brought us forth by the word of truth...

1 Corinthians 4:15

For though you have ten thousand guides in Christ, yet *you do not have* many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

C. The result—a practical spiritual union

Romans 8:16

The Spirit Himself witnesses with our spirit that we are children of God.

1 Corinthians 6:17

But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.