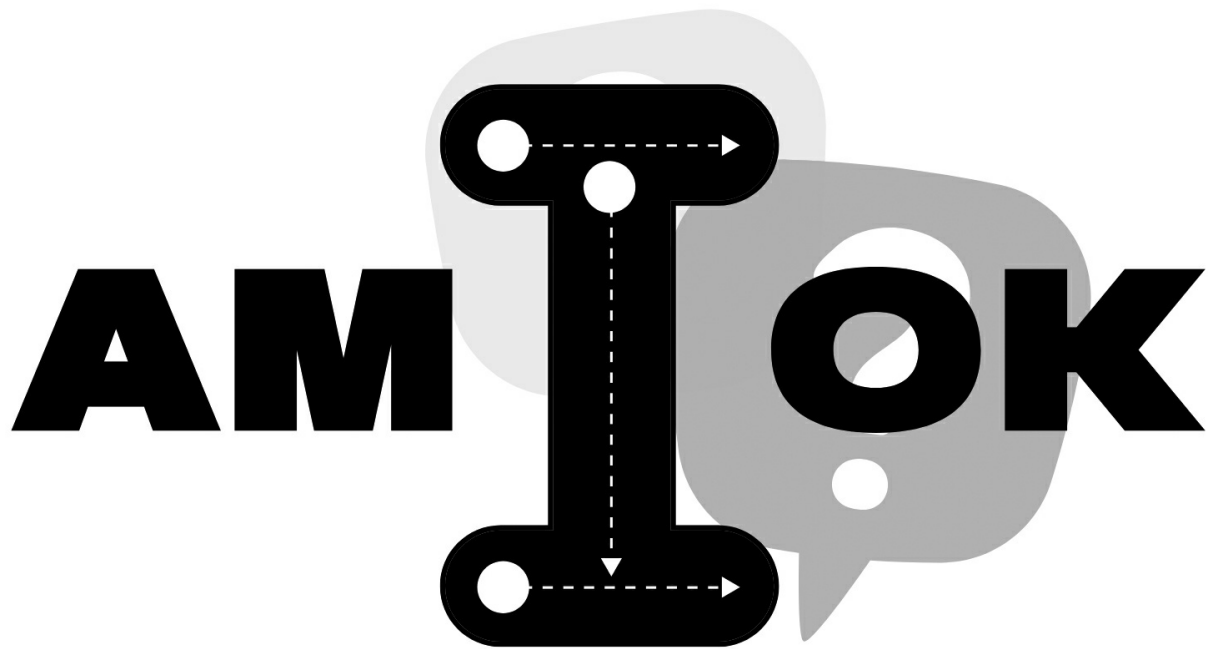


Assurance

November 11, 2025



Craig Smith • November 16, 2025 • Assurance

“You of little faith”, He said, “Why did you doubt?” (Matt. 14:31b)

The doctrine of justification: Jesus’ righteousness was credited to me through faith alone so that I am forever declared right with God...

Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness. (Rom. 4:4-5)

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. (1 Peter 3:18a)

Jesus plus anything = nothing – “If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about – but not before God. What does the Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.’” (Rom. 4:2-3)

*Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? (**Gal. 3:3**)*

• **God's one-way handshake** – *"...because by one sacrifice He has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this: First He says: 'This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.' Then He adds: 'Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.'"* (**Heb. 10:14-17**)

The assurance of God's permanent approval should motivate me to...

• **Rest from fear** – *"For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him we cry, 'Abba, Father.'"* (**Rom. 8:15**)

• **Live from freedom** – *"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death."* (**Rom 8:1-2**)

The "Go now" choice: a new life in God's grace over the old ways in my guilt – *"Jesus straightened up and asked her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she said. 'Then neither do I condemn you,' Jesus declared. 'Go now and leave your life of sin.'"* (**John 8:10-11**)

• **Tell my story** – *"So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him."* (**Luke 8:39b**)

"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life." (**John 5:24**)