

**Series: Free In Christ**

**Title: Justification Described & Defined**

**Text: (Gal 2:15-21)**

**Introduction & Recap**

I. Introduction. 1: 1 - 5

II. Gospel of grace is exclusive. 1 :6 - 9

III. Gospel of grace by the revelation of Christ. 1:10-12

IV. Gospel of grace displayed in Paul's testimony. 1:13-24

V. Gospel of grace preached unto the Gentiles. 2:1-14

**VI. Gospel of grace is a doctrine that we are to live by. 2:15-4:31**

**A. Justification described, defined. (2:15-21)**

**1. Justification by faith. (vs 15-16)**

- a. Jew or Gentile; it makes no difference. vs 15
  - 1.) All have sinned. (Rom 3:23)
  - 2.) All must believe. (Rom 10:4)
- b. The act of God declaring the sinner righteous. (Rom 8:33)
- c. Jesus Christ makes the difference. vs 16
  - 1.) No human achievement can merit justification.
  - 2.) No man can be set right by works. (Eph 2:9)(Titus 3:5)
  - 3.) Not by the law. (Rom 3:28) (Acts 15:10) (Rom 3:20)
  - 4.) Negative now becomes positive through faith in Christ.
    - a.) Justification is an instant transaction.
    - b.) Faith is a clear cut and simple statement of justification.
    - c.) Faith is an accomplished act and fact for you and me.
    - d.) Faith in Jesus Christ alone avails.

**2. Justification through Christ without law & works. (vs 17-21)**

- a. Doctrine of justification is not a license to sin. vs 17
  - 1.) We have a new position in Christ.
  - 2.) We must not continue in sin. Rom 6:1
  - 3.) We make God a liar. I John 5:10
- b. Destroyed Law must remain destroyed. vs 18
  - 1.) The believer is no longer under law, but grace. (Rom 6:14)
  - 2.) The salvation experience allows no returns.
- c. Dead to the Law. vs 19

- 1.) Delivered from the law. (Rom 7:6)(Rom 10:4)(Rom 8:2)
- 2.) Delivered unto God.
  - a.) The Law had condemned me.
  - b.) The Law has accused me.
  - c.) The Law could not do for me what Christ has done.
- 3.) Dead things no longer has an influence over us.
  - a.) Paul ceased to observe the Law for justification.
  - b.) Paul ceased to have the Law as the purpose of his life,
- d. Died with Christ. vs 20
  - 1.) A total change in the relationship of Christ to all things.
    - a.) Christ is the source of forgiveness and eternal life.
    - b.) It is Christ living in us now.
    - c.) It is Christ as the sole meaning of life for us now.
    - d.) It is the very Gospel itself
  - 2.) This life is now motivated by faith. Hab 2:4, Rom 1:17, Gal 3:11, Heb 10:38
    - a.) We are purified by faith. Acts 15:9
    - b.) We are justified by faith. Rom 5: 1
    - c.) We stand by faith. II Cor I :24
    - d.) We walk by faith. II Cor 5:7
    - e.) We have Christ in our hearts by faith. (Eph 3:17)
    - f.) We have victory over the world by faith. (I John 5:4)
  - 3.) This is all made possible by an act of love.
    - a.) He died for Paul.
    - b.) He died for you.
    - c.) He died for me.
- e. Death of none effect if law brings righteousness. vs 21
  - 1.) Frustrate is to make void, to make of no effect.
    - a.) The problem has brought Paul to the place of despair.
    - b.) To go back to the law means to set aside grace.
    - c.) To return to the law nullifies the cross.
  - 2.) Favor expressed in the pure grace of God.
    - a.) Grace is the principle of conduct.
    - b.) Grace drove Christ to the cross.
    - c.) Grace says DONE. Law says DO.