

## What Jesus Christ did for you – Justification, Grace and Mercy

Good morning church, I want to welcome you to our service today. If this is your first time joining us here on Sunday Online, we would like to welcome you to our service and invite you to join us every Sunday for a weekly message.

## Let us pray

### Introduction

For the past couple of weeks, we have been in a series titled “God is not mad with you?”

We have discussed multiple words that explain some of what Jesus Christ did for us on the Cross of Calvary.

We discussed the Corrupted Christian life where we talked about Jesus Christ came to this earth so that we could have a life above our normal circumstances and so that we could live the supernatural life that He paid for us to live, that is to live a life that is above the natural way people live.

Then we discussed the Image many people have of God that is often blurred by our past experiences and Jesus Christ called us to live the SUPERNATURAL life which is a life above our circumstances.

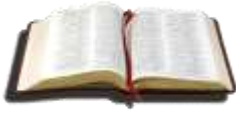
Next, we discussed Jesus Christ's Atoning sacrifice that not only covered sin as the High Priest did yearly on the Day of Atonement, Jesus Atoned for mankind at the Ark of the Covenant, which is in Heaven (**Hebrews 9:11-15**), and Atoned for sin not by the blood of animals but by His Own Precious Blood and thereby totally blotting out not covering, but blotting out our sin!

Then we spoke about reconciliation and righteousness, Jesus Christ's death on the Cross of Calvary reconciled mankind to God because sin was dealt with, **2 Corinthians 5:18** says that we are reconciled to God through Jesus Christ and now we are declared righteous or in other words, we have the right to be in the very presence of God because our sin was blotted out/removed through the Atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

Last week we spoke about Jesus Christ saving us from Judgement and Hell and the Lake of Fire, but paying the price for Sin, sin lost its power and therefore we are set free from the Law of Sin and Death (**1 Corinthians 15:56-57**).

## JUSTIFICATION

As we start today's message, I want you to understand that Jesus Christ paid a debt none of us could pay by paying the FULL PRICE for SIN, the Bible says in **Hebrews 9:22** “*22 And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.*”



So, blood is needed to be shed to obtain remission/forgiveness either animal blood which covered sin for a year of Jesus Christ who with His Blood not only covered our sin but removed sin forever and blotted any record of our sin out of the books.

Sin was a debt that none of us could pay for ourselves but if we reject this Salvation in Jesus Christ alone there is no forgiveness of sin, and the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ will have no effect on our lives, and we will die in our sin without a means for Salvation.

Remember, when Adam sinned, it did not surprise God or catch Him off guard! He had already made a Plan; that Plan was laid out in **Genesis 3:15** and was fulfilled when Jesus Christ's Blood would redeem us from our SINS so that we can be made Righteous and Justified.

Our text today comes from **Romans 3:21-26** *<sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, <sup>22</sup> even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, <sup>26</sup> to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. "*

We already know from my past sermons that one of the things Jesus Christ's death on the Cross gave you is Righteousness, right-standing with God.

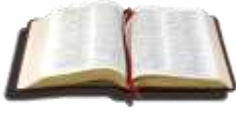
You have the right to stand in the very presence of God.

I want you to understand that when we speak about Salvation each of these aspects, I have been talking about in the past few weeks are all part of Jesus Christ's redemption of mankind at the Cross of Calvary that Jesus Christ paid for with His Own Blood for you, me and for all mankind, past, present, and future it is SIN PAID FOR through Jesus Christ!

Let me talk about JUSTIFICATION, whenever you see the word justify think of it saying, JUST AS IF I, just as if I never sinned, so verse 24 should read *"being made just as if I have never sinned (justified) freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus*

in our scripture reading it says, *"...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..."*, there is no way out but through Jesus Christ, the next verse says *"...being JUSTIFIED freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus..."*

So, we are all sinners, right now without accepting Jesus Christ's death on the Cross of Calvary and His full payment there is no way out of our life of sin, but God made



us just as if we have never sinned through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ!

And now that your sins are forgiven through Jesus Christ, sin is taken away and you have been declared righteous, in right standing with God, you have become reconciled to God because your sin is dealt with, and you are made just as if you have never sinned at all.

Wow, that is incredible. Jesus Christ paid my debt for sin and removed the stain of sin from my life forever!

Now you might ask why? Why is Jesus the only Way to God according to **John 14:6**, why can't I come another way or why can't I live a good life and be kind to people and obtain my salvation – you know I did it my way?

**Isaiah 64:6**, is very clear and says that our best works, our most sincere works are as *“filthy rages”*, the Hebrew word for this is “aid” Strong's reference 5708 which means something detestable/repulsive – Our best works are detestable/repulsive to God.

Why because we cannot obtain justification, sanctification, righteousness, that right standing before God by ourselves, by our works, by anything else or anyone else but through Jesus Christ ONLY! There is no other way to God period!

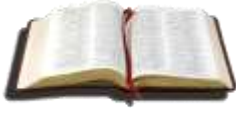
When we try to do this, when we come to God with anything other than Jesus Christ and His Blood sacrifice on our behalf, when we ignore the justification and righteousness / the right standing that comes through faith in Christ we fall short of God's perfection!

### **It is all God's Mercy and GRACE**

So we need to do it in God's way! When we do it God's Way which is through Jesus Christ alone, there is TOTAL acceptance and we obtain God's MERCY and GRACE through God's unconditional love for all mankind and the finished work of Jesus Christ on the Cross of Calvary. (**John 3:16-17**)

Many people do not understand the difference between GRACE and Mercy, let us first read **Ephesians 2:4-10**, *“<sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup> and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”*

The reason why God shows us mercy is that He loves us even before we knew Him, the verse says even while we were dead in our trespasses/sin or while we never



knew God, maybe even turning our backs on God and His love for us, and while we lived our lives in sin far from God and we were on our way to a Christless eternity in a place called Hell, God loved us.

He made us, He has already made us ALIVE together with Jesus Christ, in other words, without Jesus Christ you are dead but in Jesus Christ, you are alive, you have eternal life not eternal death or separation from God.

And this is all a gift, you cannot earn it, you cannot buy it, you must accept it, it is a free gift of God and it is because of God's mercy and grace toward mankind.

### **What is the difference between Grace and Mercy?**

Grace means that someone else needs to pay a price you can never pay that someone pays that price on your behalf or for you. They go through all the suffering, pain, and shame to make you receive a gift you do not deserve.

This is exactly what Jesus Christ did for mankind on the Cross of Calvary and to reject Jesus is as good as accepting a life without forgiveness, no mercy, and no grace you have to pay the price for your sin, yourself.

Our sin debt is a price we could never pay, we were never created to pay it because it was already paid and that is why we need a saviour and that Saviour is ONLY Jesus Christ.

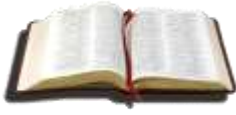
**Hebrews 4:14-16** *"<sup>14</sup> Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."*

When we come to God through Jesus Christ, we receive both Mercy and Grace, mercy means we are given a second chance, we were in the wrong and caught doing something wrong and we need to be punished! But instead of being punished, we receive forgiveness and we are given a second chance.

All of mankind has been given a second chance, all we need to do is accept Jesus Christ who died on the Cross and paid the full price for sin and gave all mankind the opportunity to get a second chance.

We were all on our way to a Christless, Godless eternity in a place called Hell, we all faced the Second death and will be cast into the Lake of Fire, BUT God showed all those who would believe in Him and personally accept Jesus Christ, His Son as their Saviour and has through Jesus Christ given us all Mercy, He has given us all a second chance, all we need to do is accept His plan for our Salvation through Jesus Christ.

It is only by God's grace and mercy and our applied faith in these facts, we need to apply our faith to What Jesus Christ has already done at Calvary and accept Jesus



Christ, His Son, for ourselves individually so that we have access to God mercy and Grace and receive an eternal redemption/forgiveness for sin and received the gift of eternal life with God in Heaven.

It is ONLY through Jesus Christ, that is why Paul can say in **Ephesians 2:9**, “...so *no one can boast...*”, we cannot boast in anything, any works, any special abilities but the personal acceptance of Jesus Christ’s sacrifice and the Mercy and Grace God bestowed on those who will put their faith in His Son and His Finished Work of the Cross of Calvary for their sin.

### Closing

As I closed today’s message, God has gone out of His way to create a perfect Salvation for everyone who wants to come to Him.

His plan was to send His only Son to the earth to live a life on earth as a man and be totally free from sin, so that He could be the ultimate sacrifice for sin, the sin of the entire world and for all mankind!

All you have to do is receive the Son, His Son, Jesus Christ as your atoning sacrifice to blot out your sin (ATONEMENT), by paying the complete price for your sin you could never possibly repay yourself (GRACE), to give you a second chance (MERCY) and make you just as if you have never sinned (JUSTIFIED) so that you are reconciled to God (RECONCILIATION) and have all the rights as a child of God (ADOPTION) and the right to stand in God’s presence by making you Holy (SANCTIFICATION) because ALL sin is removed (RIGHTEOUSNESS) and now you can live with Him here on earth (AMBASIDORSHIP and SUPERNATURAL LIFE) and when you die, you can in Heaven (PREDESITANTION)

It all starts with you accepting Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, no one else can make that decision or do it for you, you have to do it yourself.

So let us ask Jesus into our lives right now!

**Let’s pray**