**Justification**

1. The Basics of Justification
2. Definition

Justification – The act of pronouncing or accounting righteous.

Justify – To declare to be righteous.

Justifier – One who declares or accounts another righteous.

1. Biblical Usage

Deut. 25:1 If there be a controversy between men, and they come unto judgment, that the judges may judge them; then they shall justify the righteous, and condemn the wicked.

Pr. 17:15 He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the Lord.

Is. 5:23 Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!

Luke 7:29 And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John.

Luke 16:15 And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

1. Confessional Testimony

LBCF 11. Those whom God effectually calls, he also freely justifies, not by infusing righteousness into them, but by pardoning their sins, and by accounting and accepting their persons as righteous;

1. The Cause of Justification
2. Complex Causality

Formal, efficient, material, final, instrumental, meritorious.

1. Causes of Man’s Justification by God.
2. The Formal cause

Eph. 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

Eph. 1:11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

1. The Meritorious Cause

Rom. 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Rom. 4:25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

Rom. 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Rom. 5:18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

1. The Instrumental Cause

Rom. 3:28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

Rom. 3:30 Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

Rom. 4:5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Rom. 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Gal. 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

Gal. 3:8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

Gal. 3:11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

Gal. 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

1. Contention and Confession Regarding Justification

Rom. 2:13 (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.

James 2:24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.