

THE NEW BIRTH DOES NOT MAKE US SINLESS, BUT IT MAKES US WANT TO BE!

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April 2011

In Rom. 4:5, there are some very powerful and wonderful words. **"To him that worketh not, but believeth on Him THAT JUSTIFIETH THE UNGODLY, his faith is counted for righteousness."** Have we, in times past, read these words and reckoned them to be for the unsaved? Well, they most certainly are for those who do not know the Lord, but there is also a deeper meaning that is meant to bring new hope and faith to those who have been Born-Again, and who are daily faced with the sins and failures of the flesh.

Notice the words in our text, **"Him that Justifieth the Ungodly."** We ask a very pertinent question, "Who are the Ungodly?" For certain, they are those who have not had an experience with the Lord, and whose master is the one they are obeying, but are they the only ones that our text means to include? Has it not been proven to us who have been Born-Again, that we are also still UNGODLY in our flesh? Have we not been shown by the Holy Ghost that we, as the Apostle Paul, are still **"wretched men"** as far as being able to perfectly keep the Laws of God? **"For the good that I would, do I not, but the evil which I would not, that I do."** Rom. 7:19

It is scripturally true that the Born-Again have not been rid of "The Law of Sin" that dwells in our members (Rom. 7:23), so that in that part of us, we are also "Ungodly." Realizing then that the New Birth has not left us sinless, and that we have need to be washed in the Blood moment by moment, we also realize that our text scripture is not only speaking

to the lost sinner, but to the "Saved Sinner" as well. "God Justifieth the Ungodly." These words are meant to bring great comfort to the Born-Again who daily grieve over their inability to always **"Perform that which is good."** (Rom. 7:18)

If there was a man, who after his New Birth, did always keep The Law perfectly, and did never fail in any duties set before him, then he would, of himself, be in a Justified state. But, dear friend, do you know of any such person? Do you dare to claim such a position for yourself? If not then we personally fit into the group, who because of our UNGODLINESS, need to be JUSTIFIED daily! Gal. 3:21-22, **"Is the Law then against the promises of God? God forbid! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the Law. Verse 22, "But the scripture hath concluded ALL UNDER SIN, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe."**

The Apostle John included himself when he said, **"If we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."** (1 John 1:8)

Gal. 3:3, **"Are ye so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?"** (Can you keep The Law and be perfect?)

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."**

Rom. 3:9-10, **"What then? Are we better than they? No, in no wise; For we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles that they are all under sin. As it is written, there is none righteous, no not one."**

Considering the above scriptures, and many more that say the same, we should fall on our faces before our Loving Saviour, who has taken upon Himself the title of "Him that Justifieth the Ungodly." We have thought, have we not, that Justification was needed only by those who do not as yet know God. Are we surprised to hear it preached that the Born-Again need Justification also, and that on a daily basis? God, who is our Perfect Sovereign, knows that there is not a Just man upon the Earth that always does good and sins not, and in His overwhelming Grace has undertaken the task of, not Justifying the Just, but of Justifying the "Ungodly." Friends, this includes Message Believers!

We, in this Message, know that we are only JUSTIFIED BY FAITH that is in Jesus Christ, and have been made an Heir of God and a Joint Heir with Jesus Christ. We know that because of the sinful nature that remains in our flesh, we must take our place among the sinful, daily confessing our guilt, while at the same time we, with great rejoicing, lay hold of that Grace which has been provided for us, believing with all that is within us that "God Justifieth the Ungodly." We can claim this promise

because being honest with ourselves, and with God, we know we fit into the class of people the promise is made to, the UN-GODLY.

Faith calls this promise of God her own. We are not thieves for taking of this Grace, for we have a Divine permit; **“Whosoever will, let him take the Water of Life freely.”** (Rev. 22:17) If any of our readers are in such a case as this writer, and has in times past had problems with Condemnation, because of the failures and sins of the flesh, then let him not hesitate to claim this promise, “God Justifieth the Ungodly.” We may be sure that we will not be blamed for doing so, because for this reason was The Cross endured. Our Lovely Christ never repulses one, but promises that all those who are Ungodly will be justified.

If any of our readers are perfectly righteous, then you need no Justification. If you feel that you are living your life well, and doing God a good service, to the point of almost placing Him under obligation to you, then you have no need of Grace. You are already Justified in your own eyes, and you perhaps are bored with this sermon by now. But, to those of you who daily grieve and mourn over your sins, to those whose hearts are broken because you cannot walk as Holy as you desire to walk, to you we say “Take new hope, lift up your eyes unto the hills from whence your help commeth, settle in on this glorious promise, “God Justifieth the Ungodly.” Spiritually, it is a blessed thing to leave all our repented of sins into the hands of the Great Justifier. We need not ask for signs or tokens, but simply cling to what He has said.

There is no Gospel to preach to the Self-Righteous except, “Take a good look at your righteousness

until you see what a delusion it is.” Flee from it as though it were the most poisonous reptile on Earth. for it is in very fact a DEATH BITE. To make one Just who is already Just is not what the Lord came to do, but to make him Just who is Unjust; this is the work of the Gracious God. To Justify the Ungodly; this is the Miracle worthy of our Supernatural Lord. If you are altogether undone because of your sin, you are the very person that our text is speaking to, “God Justifies the Ungodly.”

Do you think that you are not Born-Again because the sins of your flesh constantly pull you down? Do you think you are still lost because you are still a sinner? This is the very reason we can be Justified, because we are UN-GODLY, because we confess ourselves to be sinners. Grace was ordained for such as you and I. A sinner is in a blessed state, because the Holy Ghost has shown him what he is. Thousands have some degree of hope in their own righteousness, failing in the revelation that they have no Righteousness at all. They clutch their filthy rags around their shoulders, failing to put on the **“Robe of Righteousness.”** Rom. 5:17

It needs to be made very plain, but still as plain as it is, only the Lord can make us see that even after the New Birth we fit into a class of people who are Ungodly in our flesh, and have need of the promise daily that “God Justifies the Ungodly.” How can the death of the Saviour on the Cross, and the Gospel of Pardon be accounted for unless we understand that ALL MEN, the lost and the saved, have still earned the title of “Ungodly?” Yes, we, even as Paul, are wretched men after the infilling of the Holy Ghost, and we must come to our Lord in that present state.

Come to Jesus daily just as we are: leprous, filthy, naked, and guilty, neither fit to live nor fit to die, unless we have reached up out of our helplessness and laid hold of the promise “God Justifieth the Ungodly.” Isn’t that a glorious Word for us who are in the End-Time Message and expecting the Rapture Trumpet to sound any day? It is a wonderful thing, this being JUSTIFIED! If we had never broken the Laws of God, we would not have needed it, for we would be Just in ourselves, but the Bride has too much honesty to pretend to be without sin, and therefore, we need to be Justified. We cannot justify ourselves, and our fellow mortals cannot justify us. Who else but our Heavenly Father would have ever thought about Justifying those who are guilty?

In our human way of thinking, we see those who are Holy and Pure as being Justified, but our Glorious Redeemer had the thought of Justifying those who are guilty, and who will remain guilty to the last day we are in these bodies. He, in the wonder of His Electing Grace, has chosen some to be **“Holy and without blame before Him, in Love”** while they are still guilty in a flesh body. (Eph. 1:4) Why then cannot you and I be Justified, dear Friend? Has not the Holy Ghost revealed our guilt to us? And, has He not convicted us of the same? Surely he has, and is not this the PROOF WE NEED THAT WE ARE HIS ELECT? He shows us our need!

A Prophet has said that only those with the Person of Christ in them can truly repent, and only the truly repentant can be Justified. It seems to me that this fits our case exactly. We grieve over our sins only because they have been revealed to us, and our grief drives us to repentance, and the forthcom-

ing relief it brings. This, in itself, is Justification. It is written, **“Whom He did predestinate them He also called; and whom He called them He also Justified; and whom He Justified them He also Glorified.”** (Rom. 8:30) Then since you and I see the need, and confess it, why do we hesitate to lay claim to this Justification that is so freely and generously offered? Let us lay hold of it at once!

Only God can Justify us Ungodly People, but He can do it perfectly. We are not teaching about Justice, nor of God dealing justly with us. If He dealt with us according to what we deserve, we would have no chance at all. If we choose to try and deal with our God on Law terms, then nothing but His wrath can be ours. But blessed be His Name, He has not dealt with us after our sins, but in terms of His Great Grace. He, because He is LOVE, is able to treat the guilty with abundant Mercy, as if we had always been Godly! “God Justifieth the Ungodly.”

“Who shall lay anything to the charge of God’s Elect? It is God that Justifieth.” (Rom. 8:33) If God has Justified us, then it has been well done, it is rightly done, it is Eternally done. Our Prophet said, “If the Judge has acquitted me who can condemn me? If the highest court in the Universe has pronounced me Just, who can lay anything to my charge? This Justification that comes from God must not be questioned by us at all. We must take it as the answer to all the enemy’s accusations concerning our guilt. We do not deny our guilt, but rather do we claim that it is our Ungodliness itself that sets us in line to be Justified. Not that we do not strive against sin, but that after our striving is over, we see that **“The Righteousness of the Law”** has not been fulfilled in us except

by Faith in the Crucified One. (Rom. 8:4)

With this Justification we have the answer to all the railings of the devil against us. He has not one chance of condemning One who believes that “God Justifies the Ungodly.” With this Justification, we are ready for the Rapture, and with this Justification, we are ready to die, if that should come before Rapture. With this Justification, we are ready to rise again at Resurrection Time, and be gathered together with those who are alive and remain.

The Bride believes in the forgiveness of sins. She believes that every hour the Bridegroom is saying to Her, “Thy sins be forgiven thee, go in peace.” We do not doubt the power of His Love, though we do not understand it we cannot doubt it, because He not only proved it at Calvary, but proves it to our conscience daily, as we receive relief from our guilt. We perhaps could not forgive our fellowman if he had offended us as we have offended our God, but we must never measure God’s forgiveness by our own measuring stick. His thoughts and ways are as high above ours as the Heavens are the Earth.

Before God sent a Prophet to teach on “Justification”, some of us were stricken with a terrible sense of guilt. We had not understood that Jesus Christ actually became sin for us, so that no degree of sin remained in the lives of those who believe. “He that believeth on HIM is not condemned.” (John 3:18) God is Just in wiping out our sins because He made the payment for them Himself. There is not one doubt in His mind but what they were all paid for. I believe it to be a true statement that an ungodly person Justified by God, stands on a surer footing than

if he had been able to Justify himself by his works. No works of man could ever be as perfect as the work of God.

We would always be in a state of unrest, if after all we had fallen short in Justifying ourselves. But, by having the revelation of the Perfection that is in our Father, there is no fear that He has left us only partly Justified. When God Justifies and the Holy Ghost bears witness to the fact by giving us peace with God, then we know that the matter is settled! But, someone may still ask, “How can a Just God Justify Guilty men and still remain Just? As in all spiritual questions, we must go at once to the written Word. Paul, in Rom. 3:21-26, gives us the full answer.

“But now the Righteousness of God without the Law is manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the Righteousness of God which is by Faith of Jesus Christ, unto all and upon all them that believe. For there is no difference; For all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God; being Justified freely by His Grace through the Redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Whom God has set forth to be a propitiation through Faith in His Blood, to declare His Righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God. To declare I say, at this time, His Righteousness, that He might be Just, and the Justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”

This is the answer to how God could Justify the guilty for their past sins, and yes, go even further and Justify us, who after our New Birth, still remain guilty in our flesh. Did you see it in the above scripture? It is because our redemption was “In Christ” who was none other than God Himself in a

flesh body. God did not send another Person to pay our debt, and then declare us Justified. This would have placed His Own manner of Justice in question. But, when He came down Himself, took upon Himself our sins, and suffered every ounce of the punishment that we deserved, then He had remained JUST, as He was the Justifier Himself.

How often have we heard the untaught declare that it makes little difference how we see the God Head, whether there be one person or three therein. The difference is that we need to know that the One who will Judge us is THE VERY SAME ONE WHO JUSTIFIED US WITH HIS OWN BLOOD. There is no question in His mind as to our Justification, and He bids us to have no question in our minds about it. The Judge passed the sentence, and the Judge carried it out upon Himself, becoming the JUSTIFIER who had remained JUST.

My sins were far better paid for by the Great Creator dying for me, than if I had been sent to Hell to pay for them myself. For God to die for our sins brought more

Glory to His Great Name than if the whole world had wasted away in Hell. For God Himself to suffer for our sins established His overflowing Love in a way that nothing else could have done. Behold the wonder of it, see Him groaning upon the Cross, watch the clock slowly tick by 60 seconds in six long, horrible hours, then see if you can find it in yourself to refuse His statement "God Justifies the Ungodly."

The more I look at the sufferings of the Creator the more sure I am that He has Justified me! The deeper the revelation becomes that my Father bowed before His own Law of Sin and Death for me, the deeper becomes my conviction that I am Justified. What more could have been done in the way of pardoning sin? God can now spare His Ungodly Bride because He did not spare Himself! I am sure some will take offence at the statement "Ungodly Bride." We mostly hear different descriptive words concerning Her, but never forget that unless we are believing that "God Justifieth the Ungodly" we are yet Ungodly.

But, thanks be to God he cannot read our pardon, written in His own Blood, and then leave us to be purged in the Tribulation. He has already purged us!

It is now time for The Bride to turn the tables on Her enemy. For all these years he has mostly spent his time convincing us that we are Ungodly sinners, so that he cannot now undo the work he has done. God has used him as a TOOL to perfect His Bride. Satan cannot convince us that we are not sinners. Has that not prepared us to fully receive of the promise "God Justifies the Ungodly?" Surely we see clearly that we are the ones the promise was made to. The majority in the Church stand and boast that "They are not as other men" while the Elect bows their head and says "God be merciful to me a sinner," (Luke 18:10-14)

We thank you dear Lord Jesus, that you have opened our eyes to our great need of Justification, and that you have furnished the same in your promise "God Justifies the Ungodly." Amen.

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