

ARE YOU CATHOLIC OR PROTESTANT?

Choose the proposition which is *most true*.

1. (A) God gives a man right standing with Himself by mercifully accounting him righteous.
(B) God gives a man standing with Himself by actually making him into an righteous person.
2. (A) God gives a man right standing with Himself by placing Christ's goodness and virtue to his credit.
(B) God gives a man right standing with Himself by putting Christ's goodness and virtue into his heart.
3. (A) God accepts the believer because of the moral excellence found in Christ.
(B) God makes a believer acceptable by infusing Christ's moral excellence into his life.
4. (A) If a man becomes born again, he will achieve right standing with God.
(B) If a sinner receives right standing with God, he will then experience a transformation of character and life.
5. (A) We receive right standing with God through faith alone.
(B) We receive right standing with God by faith and love.
6. (A) We achieve right standing with God by having Christ live out His life of obedience in us.
(B) We achieve right standing with God by receiving the truth that he obeyed the Law of God perfectly for us.
7. (A) We achieve right standing with God by following Christ's example by the help of enabling grace.
(B) We follow Christ's example because His life has given us right standing with God.
8. (A) God first declares us good, and then His Spirit begins making us good.
(B) God sends His Spirit to make us good, and then He will declare that we are good.
9. (A) Christ's finished work on the cross and intercession at God's right hand gives us favor in God's sight.
(B) It is the indwelling Christ that gives us favor in God's sight.
10. (A) Only by the imputation of Christ's righteousness can we fully satisfy the claims of the Ten Commandments.
(B) By the power of the Holy Spirit living in us we can fully satisfy the claims of the Ten Commandments.

Extra Credit: You get to Heaven by works. T or F
Our faith is the ground of our salvation. T or F

Systematic Theology

The Doctrine of Salvation: Justification

Introduction

Martin Luther, ‘This is the truth of the Gospel. It is also the principal article of all Christian doctrine, wherein the knowledge of all godliness consists. Most necessary it is, therefore, that we should know this doctrine well and teach it to others, and beat it into their heads continually.’”

I. The critical nature of the doctrine

- A. The historical focus
- B. The contemporary focus
- C. The experiential focus

II. The definition of *Justification*

- A. What is it NOT
- B. It is a legal, forensic declaration
Rom. 8:33-34

III. The ground of our justification: Christ alone

- A. Christ pays the penalty our sin deserves
Rom. 5:8; 2 Cor. 5:21; Gal. 3:13; 1 Pet. 3:18
- B. Christ’s righteousness is the ground of our righteousness
The righteousness required by the Law is the righteousness of Christ given to us as a gift
Rom. 3:24; 5:15, 17; Titus 3:7
- C. Christ’s righteousness consists of perfect obedience
Rom. 5:19

The Inwardness

The Progressiveness

The Climactic Demand

The Dynamic (the divine design through which Jesus learned obedience suffering)
- D. Christ Himself, in His obedience and death, is our justification
Rom. 10:4; 1 Cor. 1:30

IV. The means of our justification: faith alone

(Rom. 3:22, 25-26, 28; 4:1-5; 5:1; Gal. 2:16; 3:24; Phil. 3:8-9)

- A. The means or instrument of righteousness is *not* the righteousness
- B. Faith as the means is the gift of God and it glorifies God

V. Summary:

Justification is the legal declaration that the sinner's sin and guilt have been forgiven (by imputation to Christ)

The sinner is now perfectly righteous before God and His holy Law (by the imputation of Christ's righteousness).