

## *“I am Justified”*

Q. What do I need to know about the Lord Jesus Christ?

A. I need to know that because of the Lord Jesus Christ, “I am justified.”

### *Justification*

*(To treat as righteous and worthy of salvation)*

All people are separated from God due to sin. Sin creates a massive gulf between God and man and prevents people from obeying God. But, a justified person is one who is approved by God and has right standing with God.

### *How is a Person Justified?*

If you ever attempted to call the President of the United States, you would know how inaccessible he is. Now, we could eventually get a message to the President by going through our local and state politicians, because these people are our representatives. They speak for us. They have access to the President.

Now when we ponder how we could get a message to God, that's a different story, because a state of war exists between the unbeliever and God and continues until a state of peace is declared. You may ask: Couldn't we just say – “a friendly disagreement exists between God and man?” And about this treaty, how is a peace treaty declared with God and who is going to be our representative to accomplish this treaty?

You see God can only be reached by unbelievers if there is common ground. God has appointed His Son Jesus Christ as the mediator between the unbeliever and God. The problem with unbelief in Jesus Christ is that it pushes God away. People try to make up their own way to God by justifying their behavior in comparison to man's standards.

--- Let's say that you are an unbeliever (someone who doesn't believe that Jesus Christ died for their sins.) Now you say “anyone can talk to God.” So you read the Bible and you also pray to God, but in your mind and heart you do not believe that this person Jesus Christ is God's Son and neither do you believe that Jesus went to the cross to die for your sins. You see, at this point in your unbelieving life you do not have common ground with God. And as far as reading the Bible goes, God's Word says:

1 Corinthians 2:14

The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

James 1:5-6

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But he who asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

*Access to God*

But to those who by faith have put their trust in God's Son, there is access to God. Because God justifies those people who believe in His Son Jesus Christ. God then treats believers as "righteous in His sight" which means having right standing with God. Believers have a "peace treaty" with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is the mediator between the two parties at war. Jesus made this peace treaty through His blood.

Romans 5:1

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ