

Two *'Justifications'* and Two *'Reconciliations'*

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

Rom 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

I. Rightly dividing God's word—A key to understanding the Bible

2Ti 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

A. Example of the necessity of rightly dividing the word *'save'*

Mat 14:30 ...he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

Mat 1:21 ...thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Act 2:40 ...Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

1Ti 4:16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

B. “*Rightly dividing the word*” is rightly dividing—Not just words—But also concepts

II. Let us review a recent sermon where we *rightly divided* two concepts in Ephesians

A. Concept 1 —‘The Grace of Salvation by Grace’

1. The essential elements of our eternal salvation that occurred before time began

Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world...

Eph 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ...

2. The essential elements of our eternal salvation that occurred on the cross

Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins...

3. The essential element of our eternal salvation that occurs in born again

Eph 1:19 And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

Eph 1:20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead...

Eph 2:1 And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

B. Concept 2 —‘The Grace of the Revelation of Salvation by Grace’

Eph 1:8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;

Eph 1:9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

1. The best kept (and best) secret in history was revealed to Paul (and by Paul)

Eph 3:3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the **mystery**...

Eph 3:5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now **revealed** unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

Eph 3:9 ...to make all *men* see what *is* the fellowship of the **mystery**, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

Eph 3:10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly *places* might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

2. The Spirit thru born again and the gospel certifies to us the reality of our salvation

—Occurs after hearing and believing the revelation (which is after born-again)

Eph 1:13 In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

3. The earnest (thru sealing) is for God's people after believing & until the last day

Eph 1:14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

2Co 1:20 For all the promises of God in him *are* yea, and in him Amen...

2Co 1:21 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, *is* God;

2Co 1:22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

Eph 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

2Co 5:4 For we that are in *this* tabernacle do groan, being burdened...that mortality might be swallowed up of life.

2Co 5:5 Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing *is* God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.

III. Justification

A. Definition—A legal verdict that pronounces righteousness and innocence

B. Jesus first had to make His people righteous and innocent before God could justify

Rom 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Rom 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

Isa 64:6 ...all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags...

Psa 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, *so* far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Isa 43:25 I, *even* I, *am* he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Heb 8:12 ...their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

2Co 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Heb 10:14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

C. Based on Jesus' work—God justified (declared righteousness and innocence)

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

Rom 8:30 Moreover 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 8:33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? **It is God that justifieth.**

D. When we come to know what God already knows—We are justified by faith

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

IV. Reconciliation

A. God is reconciled to His children—This reconciliation is a past tense finished work

Rom 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

2Co 5:18 And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ...

B. After hearing and believing (the revelation)—We can be reconciled to God—This has nothing to do with going heaven—It has to do with knowing we are going

2Co 5:18 ...God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

2Co 5:19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

2Co 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

V. Thoughts on: 1)Being sealed 2)Being justified by faith 3)Being reconciled to God

A. You can get to heaven without knowing how you get there (or who gets you there)

Jesus is the way—The sole way—The whole way—For anybody to get to heaven
You do not have to know that Jesus is the way in order for Him to be the way
Jesus is the way—Whether you know it or not—Whether you believe it or not
Many go to heaven—Not knowing how they got there—Until they get there

B. Yet, knowing how you get to heaven is crucial for ‘*Knowing You Are Going*’

As long as you think you have a part in getting yourself to heaven—
You will never (and can never) know for sure that you are going
You are the weak link in your own plan—And you can never be sure about yourself

C. Knowing that Jesus gets you to heaven is the way to peace about going to heaven

Knowing that Jesus is the sole and whole way is the only way you can have peace
If you think you have to work yourself to heaven—You can have little or no peace

If you think you have to believe yourself to heaven—You will have little or no peace

If you think you have to will yourself to heaven—You have little or no peace

If you think you have to help at all—A false teacher has robbed you of your peace

The true gospel of peace will *guide our feet into the way of peace. Luk 1:79*

D. Knowing that Jesus gets you to heaven frees you from fear of not getting to heaven

Knowing that Jesus is the sole and whole way is the only way you can be free of fear

If you think you have to work yourself to heaven—You live in fear of not getting there

If you think you have to believe yourself to heaven—You fear your faith was too weak

If you think you have to will yourself to heaven—You're a captive to your instability

If you think you have to help at all—Satan and false teachers are holding you captive

If you come to know the truth: *the truth shall make you free. Joh 8:32*

E. Knowing that Jesus gets you to heaven causes you to give God all the glory

Knowing that Jesus is the sole and whole way is the only way to give God all the glory

If you think you have to work yourself to heaven—Then you can praise your own works

If you think you have to believe yourself to heaven—Then you deserve credit for that

If you think you have to will yourself to heaven—You can applaud your own decision

If you think you have to help at all—You are robbing God of glory that He is due

According as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. 1Co 1:31

F. To know the truth of grace and believe that God alone gets you to heaven is to be:

—1) Sealed with the Spirit

—2) Justified by faith

—3) Reconciled to God

