

Westminster Confession of Faith: Session Twelve
WCF 11 – Of Justification

“For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him”
(Romans 5:6-9 NKJV).

- I. Introduction
 - a. The Importance of the Doctrine of Justification

Galatians 1:6-9

- II. WCF Chapter XI
 - a. *Paragraph 1: God’s Work of Justification*
 - i. What Justification *Is* and *Is Not*
Pardoning of Sins

Accounting/Accepting as Righteous
NOT Infusion of Righteousness

Imputation of Christ’s Righteousness
NOT Imputation of Faith or Obedience

- ii. Three Imputations for the Believer
Adam’s Guilt to Us

Our Guilt to Christ

Christ’s Righteousness to Us

- b. *Paragraph 2: Faith the Alone Instrument of Justification*
“Cause” vs. “Instrument”

Faith and Fruit

James 2:14-26—Justification by Works?

- c. *Paragraph 3: Christ the Basis of Justification*
Active Obedience

Passive Obedience

- d. *Paragraph 4: Justification in Time and Eternity*
Justification *from* Eternity vs. Justification *in* Eternity
- e. *Paragraph 5: Justification and Sin in the Believer*
A Rejection of Two Similar Errors
- f. *Paragraph 6: Justification under the Old and New Testaments*
The Logical Conclusion of Covenant Theology

Romans 4:1-3

Helpful Resources

Berkhof, Louis. *Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1938; pp. 510-526.

Buchanan, James. *The Doctrine of Justification*. Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth, 2016.

Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. Translated by Robert White. Carlisle, PA: The Banner of Truth Trust, 2014; pp. 351-428.

Hodge, Archibald Alexander. *A Commentary on the Confession of Faith*. Philadelphia, PA: Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work, 1869; pp. 245-259.

———. *Outlines of Theology*. Rewritten and Enlarged. New York, NY: Hodder & Stoughton, 1878; pp. 496-514.

R. C. Sproul, *Truths We Confess: A Systematic Exposition of the Westminster Confession of Faith*, Revised Edition. (Orlando, FL: Reformation Trust Publishing, 2019), pp. 256-281.

Van Dixhoorn, Chad. *Confessing the Faith: A Reader's Guide to the Westminster Confession of Faith*. Carlisle, PA: The Banner of Truth Trust, 2014; pp. 159-170.