



METRO NEW YORK WORLD MINISTRY
ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL CONTRIBUTING NOTES
For the week of July 15 – July 22, 2017
Lesson #4 of **“The Gospel in Galatians”**



Justification *by* Faith Alone

Memory Text: *“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.”* ([Galatians 2:20 KJV](#)).

Read and Meditate for This Week’s Study:

Galatians 2:15-21; Ephesians 2:12; Philippians 3:9; Romans 3:10-20; Romans 3:8; Genesis 15:5-6; Psalm 119.

Main Thought for the Week: While Justification is a topic that is foundational to Christianity, there are many who do not understand what it actually entails. This special work that is often looked at as the very beginning of the Christian experience, is a work that is done by the grace of God, in the name of Jesus, through the ministration of the Holy Spirit. We must accept this work in our lives by faith, for without faith it is impossible to please God. This week, we are going to take a look at what the Bible teaches about this very important aspect of salvation.



Which Law?

Sunday's Summary – July 16:

SUMMARY THOUGHTS: Before we can understand what Paul is speaking about in Galatians, it is important to understand how he is using the term “the law.” Jesus and the apostles often used that term to refer to the 10 Commandments, but sometimes they used it to refer to following as well: (a) The first 5 books of the Bible; (b) All of the laws, statutes and judgments given to Israel by God through Moses. Much confusion arises because people often choose whichever interpretation of “law” they want to suit a particular situation without looking at the context found in the scriptures in question.

1. In his discourse with Peter at Antioch (and with the Galatians in general), what law is Paul referring to?

Galatians 3:10, 13 _____

Deuteronomy 28:15 _____

Deuteronomy 29:1 _____

Deuteronomy 30:10 _____

ILLUMINATION: When Peter, at a later date, visited Antioch, he won the confidence of many by his prudent conduct toward the Gentile converts. For a time he acted in accordance with the light given from heaven. He so far overcame his natural prejudice as to sit at table with the Gentile converts. **But when certain Jews who were zealous for the ceremonial law, came from Jerusalem,** Peter injudiciously changed his deportment toward the converts from paganism. A number of the Jews “dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation.” ...
– Ellen G. White, *Acts of the Apostles*, p. 197

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Works of the Law

Monday's Summary – July 17:

1. What does Paul mean by the phrase “works of the law”?

Galatians 2:15-17 _____

Galatians 3:10-11 _____

2. What does Paul mean by the phrase “deeds of the law”?

Romans 3:1-2, 20 _____

Discuss/Consider: Why are we not saved by the works of the ceremonial law, or the deeds of the moral law? _____

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



The Basis of Our Justification

Tuesday’s Summary – July 18:

1. What is “my own righteousness, which is from the law?”

Philippians 3:9 _____

Romans 10:3-5 _____

2. By what means do we obtain “justification?”

Romans 5:18-19 _____

Hebrews 11:6-7 _____

Galatians 3:6-9 _____

Discuss/Consider: How often do we need a “justification” experience in our Christian walk? (See the memory verse for the week) _____

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



The Obedience of Faith

Wednesday’s Summary – July 19:

1. What is the relationship between faith and obedience?

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 _____

Hebrews 11:8-10 _____

Galatians 5:6 _____

Romans 16:25-27 _____

SUMMARY THOUGHTS: Faith goes beyond belief, because we are told that the devils “believe and tremble” (James 2:19) - but they lack a saving faith in God. The difference, then, is that the belief they have does not prompt them to take supporting action corresponding to the belief. The same applies to us: If we express faith in God, but are unwilling to take the steps that correspond to this action, then what we have is not faith, but belief or theory.

Discuss/Consider: How much of your “faith” falls below the biblical definition of faith? What has to happen if this is going to change for you? _____

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Does Faith Promote Sin?

Thursday's Summary – July 20:

1. Did Paul teach that the grace of God eliminates or undermines or diminishes the law of God?

Romans 7:7 _____

Galatians 2:20-21 _____

Romans 8:1-4 _____

Psalm 119:97-104 _____

Romans 3:31 _____

2. What then is the result of faith in the life of the believer?

Romans 12:1-2 _____

Hebrews 12:1-2 _____

Discuss/Consider: Does your Christian experience exhibit this relationship between faith, grace and the law? Why or why not? _____

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Wrapping It All Up...

Friday's Summary – July 21:

ILLUMINATION: The same law that was engraved upon the tables of stone is written by the Holy Spirit upon the tables of the heart. Instead of going about to establish our own righteousness we accept the righteousness of Christ. His blood atones for our sins. His obedience is accepted for us. Then the heart renewed by the Holy Spirit will bring forth “the fruits of the Spirit.” Through the grace of Christ we shall live in obedience to the law of God written upon our hearts. Having the Spirit of Christ, we shall walk even as He walked. Through the prophet He declared of Himself, “I delight to do Thy will, O My God: yea, Thy law is within My heart.” Psalm 40:8. And when among men He said, “The Father hath not left Me alone; for I do always those things that please Him.”

That which God required of Adam before his fall was perfect obedience to His law. God requires now what He required of Adam, perfect obedience, righteousness without a flaw, without shortcoming in His sight. God help us to render to Him all His law requires. We cannot do this without that faith that brings Christ's righteousness into daily practice.

– Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 198 & *Selected Messages, Book 2*, p. 380

Final Thoughts: At Metro New York World Ministry, we are committed to pointing each and every listener to the truth of Jesus Christ as our Savior from sin. It is only by the righteousness of Christ that we can be saved from sin and delivered from death. When, by faith, we accept this gift of grace, we are counted by God as sinless as His Son who died for us. But we need to be very clear – this is just the beginning of the Christian walk. We need **daily** justification, by the regeneration of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We also need a growth in grace experience that is typically termed “sanctification”. And we look forward to the physical restoration that will come at the Second Coming of Christ, which is typically termed “glorification”. Salvation is a big topic, and we have only touched the surface of one aspect of it this week. We encourage you to study these passages in depth, as you seek to understand and apply yourself to God's word.

