

the

Faith



**Dr. Gary VanDeWalker/Jason Burkleo**  
**Evangelical Free Church of Mount Shasta**

## 9. At the Cross, pt. 3 - Propitiation and Justification

### 1. Classroom Definitions

### 2. Pleasing God

#### A. definition: *propitiation*

The prefix *pro* means "for," so propitiation brings about a change in God's wrath, so that He moves from being at enmity with us to being for us.

#### B. The Cross

Romans 3:21-26

<sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—<sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a **propitiation** by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. <sup>26</sup> It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

### 3. Justification

#### A. A forgotten word

The word *justification* has fallen out of use in Western culture.

#### B. Justification is an *act* of God.

Romans 3:21-26

<sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—<sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. <sup>26</sup> It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the **justifier** of the one who has faith in Jesus.

- C. What is the *basis* of this legal verdict?

Romans 5:18-19

<sup>18</sup>Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. <sup>19</sup>For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

- D. By what means is the sinner justified?

Faith alone when they *confess* their trust in Christ. We are not justified because of any good that we have done, are doing, or will do.

Romans 4:4-5

<sup>4</sup>Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. <sup>5</sup>And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,

- E. Saving faith produces good works.

Galatians 5:6

<sup>6</sup>For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

- F. justification addresses the guilt of our sin

Romans 8:1, 33-34

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

<sup>33</sup>Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

4. Propitiation and Justification on Monday morning