

CLASS: SS1

SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

TOPIC: JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

WEEK: 8

TERM: FIRST

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

(ROMAN 3:21-24)

To justify means to prove right or to prove innocent. For example, a person accused of a particular offence is justified by law if at the end of investigation he/she is pronounced innocent. Therefore, justification is a situation whereby someone is declared innocent or set free through the process of law from a charge brought against him or her.

Paul ministering his message on justification said;

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, they are justified by his grace as a gift through the redemption which is in Jesus Christ."

By this statement, Paul meant that man cannot attain righteousness of God by his own effort or by keeping the laws; it is only by His **grace** which is the unmerited favour of God. This grace can only be received by having strong faith in Jesus Christ and the redemption He offer to mankind through the blood He shed on the cross. Therefore, if any man accepts Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and saviour, he is justified, and he is equally considered righteous.

THE FRUITS OF JUSTIFICATION

(ROMAN 5:1-11)

According to Paul, the fruit of justification is to be at **peace** with God and once a person is at peace with God, he is free from eternal condemnation. He would work with the spirit of God which would gave him access to God's glory and grace as a result of the Holy Spirit dwelling in the man and the peace that is above human understanding that he has. He would rejoice even in that midst of suffering. This rejoicing enables him to endure and his endurance would produce

good character. Good character would produce for him hope that does not disappoint due.

Paid further said,

*"But God show his love for us in that while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us".*

By this we are now justified by His blood and we shall be saved by him from the wrath of God.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

Justification by faith as presented by St. Paul is for Christians to know that they are no longer under the law but under grace. They would only be justified by having strong faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and the redemption He offers mankind through his blood. We receive the grace of God by living a life worthy of the gospel of Jesus Christ and by being at peace with God and mankind.

ASSIGNMENT

How is a Christian justified?

