

Imputation Or Forgiveness?

The Grace Of God

- “We believe the scriptures teach that man was created in holiness, under the law of his maker; but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse...” (Hiscox Standard Baptist Manual, p. 137)

- “...We believe the Scriptures teach that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace...”
- “We believe the Scriptures teach that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.” (pg. 139-140)

- **Romans 4.**
- A. This chapter uses the Greek word *"logizomai"* **about 11 times.**
 - The KJV translates it "counted" two times, *"reckoned" three times and "imputed" six times.*
 - The ASV translates it *"reckoned" each time.*
 - Romans 4:1-2 *"Justified by works" must mean free of guilt on the basis of his own deeds.*
 - Romans 4:3 It was Imputed, reckoned (*gk. logizomai*) **unto him for righteousness. What was reckoned unto Abraham for righteousness?**
 - Romans 4:6-8 Explains how God could count as free of sin somebody who had been ungodly. **THROUGH FORGIVENESS!**

- **Abraham's Faith Was Not A One Time Event.**
- *"Abraham believed God and it was counted to him for righteousness"* is in Genesis 15:6
- Then when he was about 100 years old, God told him Sarah was going to have a child and he *"believed God and it was counted to him for righteousness."* Genesis 17:15-19; cf. Romans 4:18-22.
- Then when the boy was old enough to accompany him up into the mountains and Abraham was ready to offer him in Sacrifice, he *"believed God and it was counted to him for righteousness."* cf. Genesis 22:1-5; James 2:21-23.

Why do people believe that the perfect life of Christ is put to our account?

- Argument on Romans 5:10.. Christ kept all the commandments of God, and that perfect obedience is what saves us. *"we shall be saved by his life."*
- Answered: Which life? The **resurrected life, not his life before death.**
- NOTE: Romans 4:25 ... He was **delivered for our offenses, "and was raised again for our justification."**
 - cf. Heb. 7:23-25;

- Argument 1 Corinthians 1:30-31 Christ is made unto us righteousness...
- **Answer**
- If “*made unto us righteousness*” means that His righteousness is imputed to us, then “*made unto us wisdom*” should mean that His wisdom is imputed to us...
- NOTE: Romans 5:9 Does it read, “*Much more then, being now justified by his perfect life...*”? **NO!**
 - But it does say, “*Being justified by His BLOOD!*” *we shall be saved from wrath through Him.*
 - *cf. Romans 4:6-8*

- Argument Hebrews 10:5 Some argue that Christ was given a body so that we could be justified.
- **Answer:**
 - Christ was given a body, so that he could obey.
- Note Hebrews 10:1-4
- Hebrews 10:8-10 shows us that he was given a body to offer once for all.
- Hebrews 10 is discussing the crucifixion, not the life of Jesus.

- Argument 1 Corinthians 11:24 Some argue that we partake of the bread in the Lord’s Supper to commemorate the perfect life of Christ.
- Answer: Christ offered his body on Calvary. cf. 1 Corinthians 11:24 (KJV) His body was broken for you, not lived for you...
- 1 Peter 2:23-24... He “*bear our sins in his own body on the tree...*” cf. 1 Peter 1:19
- He did not die for His own sins, but for my sins and yours. cf. Isaiah 53

Conclusion

All sin is against God.

- a. cf. Prodigal son. Luke 15:18, 21.
- b. David. Psalms 51:4
- c. Joseph. Genesis 39:9

God in His gracious mercy toward mankind gave His son to die on our behalf, and it is through Him that we receive the forgiveness of sins. cf. Romans 4:6-8

Learn what you must do for the remission of sins, and you will discover how God’s grace can save you.