

Week 8: Justification

Course: Foundations of Pauline Theology

Topic : Justification by Faith

Goal : To understand Paul's teaching on justification, emphasizing that one is declared righteous not by works of the law but by faith in Christ alone.

1. Summary of Key Content

1) Definition of Justification

- (1) A legal declaration by God that a sinner is righteous.
- (2) Based not on human works, but on Christ's atonement, received by faith.

2) Key Verses

- (1) Romans 3:28: "For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law."
- (2) Galatians 2:16: "Yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ..."

3) Three Tenses of Justification

- (1) Past: Justified at the moment of faith (Rom 5:1)
- (2) Present: Living as the justified in sanctification
- (3) Future: Final vindication on the Day of Judgment (Rom 8:30)

4) Relation to the Law

- (1) The law reveals sin and human inability (Rom 3:20)
- (2) The law leads to the gospel, acting as a tutor (Gal 3:24)

5) Justification vs. Sanctification

- (1) Justification: Instant and once-for-all declaration
- (2) Sanctification: Gradual and lifelong transformation

6) Fruits of Justification

- (1) Peace with God (Rom 5:1)
- (2) No condemnation (Rom 8:1)
- (3) Indwelling Spirit and life of holiness

