

God—The Ultimate Humanitarian

Lesson 12: A Humanitarian by Giving Us a Wonderful Status

Introduction Video – God Issues his Verdict

God has shown his love for humanity by declaring us “not guilty” in his courtroom. It is a source of great comfort that Jesus is the only reason for our innocence.

1.) The meaning of words is determined by the context in which they are used. How is the term “justify” used in the Bible?

Psalm 51:4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

Luke 10:29 But [the expert in the law] wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

Romans 8:33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.

2.) On the basis of the following passages, how can God, who is both holy and just, forgive sin?

2 Corinthians 5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Isaiah 53:5 He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

1 John 2:2 He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

3.) Agree or Disagree: Everyone in the entire world has been forgiven.

4.) How does God offer us the forgiveness of sins earned by Jesus?

Luke 24:45-47 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, “This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

Luke 3:3 [John] went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Matthew 26:26-28 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

5.) How does the forgiveness of sins become one's own?

Romans 3:28 For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

Acts 16:30-31 [The jailer] then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."

6.) Why do we need to stress so repeatedly the Biblical teaching of justification?

Romans 1:17 For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

Galatians 5:4 You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace.

Romans 8:33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.

7.) Agree or Disagree: Although we are still in a state of sinfulness, our status is one of total innocence.

NEXT TIME: A Humanitarian by Giving Us Saving Faith