

# (clip) The Promise of Justification Isn't For Good People

by Tim Conway

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*This sermon emphasizes the promise of justification by faith in Jesus Christ, highlighting how God has provided a way for us to be righteous without law-keeping. It explains that justification is a gracious act of God where He counts us righteous based on the merits of Jesus Christ, not our own goodness or law-keeping. The message underscores that this promise is for those who recognize their need for another way to be made right with God, not for those who think they are good enough on their own.*

**Scripture:** Romans 3:22, Romans 4:5, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 2:8

**Topics:** "Justification by Faith", "Grace Over Law"

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## Description

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## Transcript

And the promise is this, that if we cling to Christ in faith, we'll be justified. There's the promise. You see, the promise is the blessing of all the nations.

The promise is this, that there is a way to heaven. There is a way to be justified by faith in Jesus Christ. That's the blessing.

Justification by faith is the most glorious promise that can be imagined. I mean, this is it. This is it.

Why? Because what God has done is He has found a way for us to be righteous without law keeping. And that's huge. Because, you see, if you keep the law, if you've kept it, you're just.

You don't need any way to be justified. You are just. But if you've once broken His law, you see, what God has done is He's given a promise to those who need another way.

If you're in that camp, you see, the problem is once you've broke it, you can't heal that breach. There's nothing you can do once you're a lawbreaker to change that reality. Except by the promise.

That's it. You see, there's no way. People who say, well, I'm a pretty good person.

No, no, no. You take that pretty good off the front. Because if by pretty good you mean that you've sinned sometimes, you're a lawbreaker, and as a lawbreaker you're under a curse, and that curse says you need to keep everything written in the book of the law or you're going to go to hell.

You're cursed. You're under the wrath of God. There is no hope.

You have to keep everything, everything, every iota, every jot and tittle. You cannot be at variance from God's law in the least bit. Why? Because to sin is to fall short of the glory of God.

It is a reproach. It is an attack on His glory. And what God has said, I give promise, Abraham, that a blessing is going to come.

Oh, if Abraham could have laid his teeth into the fullness of it. It wasn't totally revealed. It was in darkness at the time.

It was not revealed in other generations as it's now been revealed. Which is what? We Gentiles, there is a way to heaven. There is a way to have our sins dealt with that does not require me to keep God's law.

And that is the promise. Justification. What is that? Justification is an act, a gracious act of God where He counts you righteous.

Not because you are righteous. Not because you've done good. Not because you've kept the law.

But He counts you as such based on the merits of Jesus Christ. By His obedience. By His perfections.

By His obedience all the way to the cross. By His death. By His righteousness.

He fulfilled all righteousness. And it's by this. Oh, do you hear those words? David spoke them and they're repeated by Paul in the fourth of Romans.

But blessed, blessed is that man against whom God does not count his sin. If you're good, you have no need of this. If you're good, look, if you came in here today and aside from all of this you can say, I'm a pretty good person.

Then you don't need this. You see, Jesus said, those who are well, they don't need a doctor. This isn't for you.

God hasn't designed a way to justify people who have kept the law, who are good people. That's not what this is for. This is for people who need another way.

This is for people who, you know what, in the eyes of good people and in the eyes of religious people, they're hopeless. There's no way. You see, this is for people like the thief on the cross who have done nothing but live a life of wretchedness and debauchery and sin and thievery and they've got nothing.

And they don't have time left to even try to repair their bad record. Which is basically what most of the false religions teach. Do enough good and you can undo the bad.

But you see, no matter how much good you do after you've broken the law, you're unjust. Justification is God, by His grace, devising a way that bad people can be declared righteous. That's the reality.

That's the promise. I mean, what greater promise could you be a partaker of than that one? That's it. This excerpt was taken from the full sermon, People of Promise.

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