

**Series: The Bible for Today**

**Title: My True Identity - I Am Justified:**

I am free from all charges against me.

**Text:** (2 Cor 5:21)

Recap:

**I Am a Creature** = “*Who Am I as a Human Being?*”

**I Am In Christ** = He in Me & I In Him!

**I am in a Living Union** with Christ by the Holy Spirit.

**I Am Justified:** I am free from all charges against me.

(Rom 5:1) Declared Just

(Rom 8:31-34) I am accepted & treated by God as Just.

(Gal 2:15-16) Not Justified by the works of the Law.

**I was under the Curse of the Law:** (Gal 3:10)

(Gal 3:10) Why can't we be justified/counted righteous by obedience to the law?

600+laws in the OT, all summed up in (Matt 22:37-39)

(Gal 3:10) “*Works of the Law*”

(2 Cor 5:21) We were described as the people in (Eph 2:1-3)

Described as ungodly sinners, enemies of God: (Rom 5:6-10)

**Jesus Knew No Sin:**

(Heb 4:15) Tempted as we are: (Matt 4:4-10)

(1 Pet 2:22) Jesus committed No Sin

(1 Jn 3:5) Jesus had no sin in him.

(Jn 8:29) Jesus' self evaluation.

Confirmed by the Father twice: (Matt 3:17; 17:5)

(Is 6:1-3) Triple Repeat means limitless.

(2 Cor 5:21) “Made” Not as Created or Forced.

Jesus Obeyed the Father willingly.

“*Made*” in the sense of “*Caused*”

God caused Jesus to bear the weight of guilt of our sin.

All the collective sin of all mankind & laid it upon Jesus.

**He was Made to be Sin for Us:**

(Is 53:5-6) Notice the “*Ours*”

(1 Pet 2:24) “*Bare Our Sins*”

(Is 53:10) “*it pleased the LORD to bruise him*”

(2 Cor 5:21)

“*Might*” The choice is ours

“*The Righteousness of God*” is explained (Phil 3:9)

Not righteousness by pursuing the Law,

But the Righteousness of Christ Credited to us. (Rom 3:22)

(2 Cor 5:21) The Great Exchange made this possible.

Our Lives Like an Accountant's Ledger:

Try and Tally all of your sins. (Is 64:6)

Christ's Ledger document: sinless life, substitutionary death, His triumphant Resurrection.

**How can God do this?**

Because We are IN CHRIST-In a Living Union with Christ.

**As Our Representative:** Jesus is Justly charged with the penalty of our sin and pays the penalty through his death.

As Our Representative:

God can Justly credit Jesus' perfect righteousness to us.  
(Gal 2:20) When Jesus died, We died.  
When Jesus lived a perfect life, we lived a perfect life.

Justified:

Our Sins forgiven b/c they were charged to Christ.  
The Perfect Righteousness of Christ credited to us.

“Just-if-i’ed Never Sinned”

“Just-If-I’ed Always Obeyed”

We Become Justified Through Faith:

(Gal 2:15-16) “*By Faith in Jesus Christ*”

Renouncing our own Righteousness: Its Filthy Rags.  
Repentance of our sin, turning to God.  
Reliance upon the finished work of Jesus Christ.  
This was a 1 Time Past Event: (Rom 5:1)

(Gal 2:17-19)

The Wonder of Justification is how God can declare us  
Righteous with respect to His Law, when we actually have  
disobeyed that law, & continue to disobey it on a regular  
basis.

(Gal 2:20-21) Present Tense = Present Reality

Everyday, Paul looked outside himself to Christ & His  
finished work, & saw himself as righteous in the sight of God  
B/c Paul knew He was IN CHRIST!

Every day we need to look outside ourselves to Christ.

See Ourselves Justified before God b/c our representative  
Union IN CHRIST.

This is not a License to Live as we please, but a motivator to  
Live as it Pleases the Lord!

It is As If we are to Preach the Gospel to Ourselves everyday.

(Eph 2:10) “Unto Good Works”