

## INTRODUCTION

1. Sinclair Ferguson: *Know Your Christian Life*, p71: problems that arise if a believer loses sight of the foundational blessing of justification.

### 1st: We, Like David and Abraham, Are Justified by Faith in God's Gospel

1. Rm 5:1-2 *Therefore* = a conclusion to 1st 4 chpts: we are sinners given the faith like that of David and Abraham.
  - i. David - 4:5-8 cite Ps 32 - forgiveness; not impute sin
  - ii. Abraham - 4:9 impute, credit - what? righteousness.
    - a. 4:6b, 4:11c Abraham believed & righteousness was credited to him
    - b. What is righteousness? 1:17. Jer 23:6 *The LORD our righteousness*
  - iii. 2 essential aspects of justification: forgiveness & imputed righteousness
  - iv. Q34 SC: What is justification?" Ans: "Justification is an act of God's free grace unto sinners effectually called to Jesus Christ, wherein He pardons all their sins & accepts them as righteous in His sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to them & received by faith alone."
  - v. Justification given to believers in Christ - 4:23-25
2. 5:1-2 *Therefore* - we, like David & Abraham, are justified by faith in Christ.

### 2nd: We, Stand in Grace, United to Jesus Christ

1. *having been justified by faith* - faith IN the Jesus of 4:23-25
2. *we have peace w/ God* - reconciliation - 5:9-11
3. All blessings of salvation given IN Christ: *thru our Lord Jesus Christ thru whom we have:*
4. *also = we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in wh/ we stand:* parallel w/ *justified & peace w/ God* [v1]
  - i. *by faith* - IN Christ

- ii. *we have obtained* - an accomplished fact: we possess, own
- iii. *our introduction* - rights & privileges of access to God Himself
- iv. *into this grace in wh/ we stand* -
  - a. *this grace*: favor - THIS grace: *thru Christ - justified, reconciled*
  - b. *in wh/ we stand* - completed. We will not be given a better legal standing in eternity than what we already have now in Christ.
- 5. *& we exult* - celebrate a victory - what Jesus has achieved for us.
- 6. *hope in the glory of God*: we experience a foretaste of the age to come in our *hope* because of all that Jesus is for us. *Hope* - in promises of the *God who cannot lie* [Tit 1:2].
- 7. Come to the Lord's Table - experience & enjoy your salvation in Christ.