

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Fall Term of 2021**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
CHAPTERS FIVE THROUGH EIGHT OF ROMANS—
THE KERNEL OF THE BIBLE**

Message Eleven

Justification of Life

Scripture Reading: Rom. 1:17; 3:22, 24, 26; 4:2-3; 5:10, 17-18, 21; 8:10-11; Acts 13:39; Gal. 2:16, 20

I. Romans 5:18 speaks of “one righteous act unto justification of life”:

- A. Christ’s righteous act of dying on the cross resulted in justification of life—v. 18:
 - 1. Verse 21 says that grace reigns through righteousness unto eternal life.
 - 2. Verses 18 and 21 show that life comes as the result of righteousness—8:10.
- B. Justification is not an end in itself; it is for life—5:18:
 - 1. Life is the goal of God’s salvation; thus, justification is “of life”—v. 18.
 - 2. Through justification we have come up to the standard of God’s righteousness and correspond with it so that now He can impart His life to us—8:11.
 - 3. Justification unto life indicates that life is the focus of Romans 5 and that the organic union of life is an issue of justification—John 15:4-5.

II. Justification is God’s action in approving us and declaring us righteous according to the standard of His righteousness—Rom. 1:17:

- A. Justification is a key item in God’s full salvation—3:24, 26; 8:30, 33.
- B. After we have obtained the forgiveness of sins and the cleansing away of sins, God has the position and ground to justify us—Eph. 1:7.
- C. As those who have been justified by God, we have Christ as our righteousness—1 Cor. 1:30.
- D. God’s justification of us is for the fulfillment of His purpose—Eph. 3:11; 2 Tim. 1:9.

III. The believers in Christ are justified by God objectively—Rom. 3:24:

- A. To be justified objectively is to be justified outwardly and positionally—Acts 13:39.
- B. We are justified freely by God’s grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus—Rom. 3:24:
 - 1. Grace is something freely given of God or done by God, and it is the expression and manifestation of God’s love—2 Cor. 13:14.
 - 2. By His grace God has justified us; hence, grace is a gift—Eph. 2:7-8.
- C. Although we are justified by God’s grace, we are justified through Christ’s redemption—Col. 1:14:
 - 1. Apart from Christ’s redemption, the righteous God would not have the ground to justify us—Heb. 9:12.
 - 2. Redemption is the basis of justification—Rom. 3:24:
 - a. *Redeem* means to purchase back something that originally was ours but that had become lost—Gal. 4:5; Titus 2:14.
 - b. Although we were lost and had many problems with God regarding His righteousness, holiness, and glory, God paid the price for us, repossessing us at a tremendous cost—Eph. 1:7; Gal. 3:13; 1 Pet. 1:18.

- c. God is bound by His righteousness to justify us—Rom. 1:17.
- d. When redemption is applied to us, we are justified—Col. 1:14; Gal. 2:16.
- 3. God is bound by His righteousness to justify us because of the redemption of Christ, which meets all His requirements—Rom. 3:22, 25-26.
- D. As believers, we are justified by the faith of Christ, that is, by believing in Christ—Gal. 2:16; Rom. 3:26, 28, 30:
 - 1. The faith of Christ is Christ Himself entering into the believing ones to be their believing element and ability—v. 22.
 - 2. Believing in Christ is the way to be justified—Acts 13:39.
- E. When we are justified by God objectively, we receive Christ as our righteousness—1 Cor. 1:30.
- F. The fact that we have been justified by God is evidenced by the resurrection of Christ—Rom. 4:25:
 - 1. Christ's resurrection is evidence that the righteous God was satisfied by Christ's death on the cross for us—1 Pet. 3:18.
 - 2. In the resurrected Christ we are accepted by God—Col. 2:12.

IV. The believers in Christ are also justified by God subjectively—Gen. 15:6; Rom. 4:2-3; 14:7-8; 2 Cor. 5:9, 14-15:

- A. The believers are justified subjectively by receiving the divine life through the positional justification.
- B. To be justified by God subjectively is to be justified by Him inwardly and dispositionally.
- C. Being justified objectively gives us the position to receive the divine life; this is the reason that Romans 5:18 speaks of “justification of life”:
 - 1. Justification is for life; in Christ we are justified unto life—v. 18.
 - 2. Justification changes our outward position, and life changes our inward disposition—12:1-2; 2 Cor. 3:18.
- D. We have received the divine life, and this life is now working in us to make us righteous in many things; this is an inward justification—Matt. 5:6, 20:
 - 1. Through such a subjective justification, our being and living are justified by the divine life within us—Gal. 2:20.
 - 2. God justifies us not only objectively from without but also subjectively from within—John 14:19; Gal. 2:20.
- E. As believers in Christ, we are justified subjectively by Christ in His resurrection—Rom. 4:25:
 - 1. As the resurrected One, Christ is in us to live for us a life that can be justified by God and is always acceptable to God.
 - 2. The resurrected Christ is now living in us a life that is absolutely righteous, a life that can be justified by God; this is inward justification by Christ's life—Gal. 2:20.
- F. Christ's redemption gives us objective justification by faith, but His resurrection life within us gives us the subjective justification by God—John 11:25.
- G. God is positioned by Christ's blood to justify us outwardly, and He is positioned by the resurrected Christ to justify us inwardly—Rom. 1:3-4; 5:1.
- H. Now we can experience life as the content of God and the outflow of God, live by the principle of life, grow in life unto maturity, be saved in life, reign in life, and minister life for the building up of the church as the organic Body of Christ—Rev. 22:1; John 11:25; Rom. 5:10, 17; Eph. 4:15-16.