

Right In the Sight of God (Romans 4:1-25) The Illustration of Abraham

Understanding the biblical meaning of justify

The verb “to justify” means to “declare or pronounce one righteous.” The biblical doctrine of justification has to do with a person’s position or standing before God. A person is either justified (pronounced righteous by God) or condemned. Only God can declare a person righteous in His sight. Justification is a one-time, supernatural work of the Holy Spirit at the moment a person is saved through Jesus Christ.

- 1. Justification by faith—the testimony of Scripture.
(Rom. 4:1-8)**
- 2. Justification by faith—not contingent upon circumcision.
(Rom. 4:9-12)**

Important Note: Circumcision in American culture is viewed a medical procedure for hygienic purposes. However, for a Jew, circumcision is a sign for being the covenant people of God.

- 3. Justification by faith—not attained through the Law.
(Rom. 4:13-15)**
- 4. Justification by faith—the fulfillment of God’s promises
(Rom. 4:16-25)**

- the promise to be the father of many nations
- the promise of blessing the nations
- the promise of a covenant child—Isaac

Isaac, the covenant child of Abraham, point to/testifies/bears witness to **the** covenant child to come, Jesus.