

Justified not Qualified (Part 2)

So, we have discussed already how our sin whether it is past sin, present sin or future sin has and will disqualify us from the favor of God. But Jesus has borne the judgement for all of our sin past, present, and future and has justified us to receive the favor of God.

Isa 53:11

- Now we are not qualified but we are justified.
 - o Qualified means I deserve it because of what I have done.
 - o Justified means I deserve it because of what Jesus has done.
 - o I am justified to receive from God, to talk to God, to be in His presence because what separated me before has been bore and judged in Jesus.
- A good definition of being justified is it's just as if I'd never sinned. So, through Jesus Christ when God looks at me, He sees me as if I had never sinned a day in my life. He sees me as someone that is worthy of everything he has.
- So, the problem with the church receiving and being used today is that we are trying to qualify (which we never will) instead of just receiving our justification through Jesus Christ.
- When you are basing your worthiness to receive from God on your works instead of what Jesus has done for you, you are trying to qualify. But when you are basing your worthiness on the works of Jesus at the cross then you believe that you are justified.
- If we are going to see God move like we want to see Him move, we are going to have to quit putting the burden of Him moving on ourselves and put it on Jesus. We need to begin to say I receive everything God has for me not because I qualify but because I am justified through the suffering of Jesus.

Rom 4

In Paul's letter to the Romans one of the things he does is reveal how guilty man is before God and says that we have all come short of the glory of God. He basically disqualifies us all by our works and lets us know that there is no way we can qualify by our works. He wants man to see that the only way they can be righteous before God is by faith. Then He gives an example of Abraham. And the reason He gives an example of Abraham is that Abraham who is the father of the Jews was the righteousness of God and greatly used by God because of faith and not works.

- Rom 4:2
 - o If Abraham did anything to qualify and become the righteousness of God, he could glory before man and boast of how great he was.
 - o But that's not the way God was going to do it.
- Rom 4:3
 - o Abraham Believed God and it was counted to Him as righteousness.
 - o Abraham was justified in the eyes of God not by works but by faith.

- Paul was quoting from Gen 15:6 (Read Gen 15:1-6) where God told Abraham I'm going to multiply your seed as stars of the heaven and Abraham just believed God and God declared Him to be righteous.
- Abraham wasn't qualified, He was justified. He wasn't qualified by works. He was justified by His faith.

When we look at Abraham in scripture, we can see that He wasn't qualified to do this great thing He was called to.

First of all, in Gen 20:11-12 Abraham lets us know that his wife was his half-sister.

- Lev 18:9
 - We see from the law that this marriage that Abraham was in with Sarah was an abomination to God.
 - Under the law he would've been stoned to death
 - But when do you think that God was against marrying your half-sister, when the law came or was it always wrong to Him? Since He doesn't change, we know it was always wrong. God was against it when Abraham was married to Sarah.
 - But this never disqualified Abraham because God chose Abraham not because of His marriage but because of His faith.
- God is a respecter of faith.
 - Some folks are saying I've got to get this right and that right before I can be used by God. You are disqualifying yourself. All you have to do is ask God what do you want me to do and listen for his voice and just believe.
 - God's looking for faith. Believe that your mess was placed on Jesus and believe God.

Look at the mercy of God with Abraham.

- 1. Even though this relationship was an abomination to God, God still used it to bring forth the chosen seed that would become the nation of Israel.
- 2. In Gen 20, Abraham was journeying through Gerar. When He came through the country, he lied to the king of that country and told him that Sarah was His sister and not his wife. He thought that if they knew she was His wife that they would kill him and take her.
 - So, we find that the king takes her and spares Abraham but then before the king could touch her the Lord spoke to Him in a dream in Gen 20:3-7.
 - God here protects a relationship that is an abomination to him.

Understand that Abraham wasn't the greatest person at that time that God had to choose from to bring this seed from and be the Father of our faith.

- In Gen 14 we see that Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedec the high priest of God at this time.
- In Hebrew 7:6-7, it tells us that Melchizedec was greater than Abraham.
- Melchizedec was a greater man of God than Abraham. He was the better choice. But God didn't choose Abraham because of His greatness, he chose Abraham because of His faith.
- You may not feel like you're the greatest person God can use and your probably not. But God is not a respecter of greatness; it's as filthy rags to Him. God is a respecter of faith.
- There are probably tons of people greater for this work than me, but can they believe for what God wants to do? Can they understand that they're justified not by their greatness but by what Jesus did?