

# **Liberation from Guilt**

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## I. Introduction.

- A. The goal is that every Christian is totally liberated, motivated and fulfilled.
- B. The greatest hindrance to this experience come from feelings of inferiority and feelings of guilt about present and past sins.

## II. Three great words from Paul: propitiation, imputation, justification.

### A. Propitiation. (Romans 3:25)

- 1. Meaning: God has turned the judgment seat into a mercy seat.
- 2. It also means that there is no charge pending against any Christian in the courtroom of heaven.

### B. Imputation. (Romans 4:6)

- 1. It means that when God says a thing is so, it is so whether it is or not. God imputed the sin of the human race to Adam. God imputed the sin of Adam to Jesus Christ. And finally it means that God imputed the righteousness of Jesus Christ to every believer. (2 Corinthians 5:21)
- 2. Jesus' record has been made ours.

### C. Justification.

- 1. This is the greatest of the words.
- 2. God finds that we were never guilty in the first place - there is a difference between a pardoned citizen and a justified one. Justification means that we were never guilty in the first place. (Hebrews 10:17)
- 3. God blots out of His memory of our sins.
  - a. In adding up the time between the Temple building and the Exodus, the author mentioned in this text there is 480 years but other evidence suggests it was over a hundred years longer than this. (1 Kings 6:1)
  - b. The reason that it does not add up is because God did not include in those years the years of disobedience in Judges. This comes up with the correct number.

c. God takes our record of history and blots out the areas where we failed.

4. Every revival in the history of the church has come out of the teachings of the book of Romans.

5. Christian depression comes from unfamiliarity with the doctrine of Justification. God has made us princes and forgotten all that we have done wrong. As God looks at His children He sees the positive and sees us as a success.

### III. Issues of sin and judgment.

A. The *bema* - the judgment seat. (2 Corinthians 5:10)

1. This term comes from the ancient Olympics.

2. The *bema* seat denotes rewards, not punishment.

B. We must know the differences between the conviction of the Holy Spirit and the wounded ego. (Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 1:9)

C. A clear conscience is often the result of a poor memory. We need to get back in the game.

D. Jesus Christ has efficiently dealt with guilt. Our responsibility is to deal with self-generated guilt feelings.

E. Our sins God remembers no more. (Hebrews 10:17)

### Application questions.

1. What were the three words for dealing with guilt from Paul? Explain them in your own words.

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2. What is the source of guilt in our lives? What does the judgment seat refer to?

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3. What issues are you having difficulty overcoming? What solution do you find in this message? Confess your sins to a trusted friend - seek encouragement from these principles by sharing them with that person and how they apply.

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