

Of Justification, Part 3 (2 Corinthians 5:21)

Baptist Confession of Faith (1689) Chapter 11, Paragraph 3

Doctrine

Christ Jesus, The Payer of Our Debt (1 Cor. 7:23)

- Christ, by His obedience and death, did fully discharge the **debt** of all those who are justified.
- We owed God righteousness and obedience to His **law**, but instead are born in sin and continued to sin.
- The wages of sin is **death**.
- Christ gives His obedience and death to the Father as the **payment** for the sins of the justified.
- Therefore, we are redeemed by Christ – we are bought by Him.

Christ Jesus, The Sacrifice for Our Sin (1 Pet. 1:18-19)

- The Lord Jesus Christ is the substitutionary **sacrifice** for our sin.
- His shed blood is the only righteous and acceptable offering to **atone** for our sins.
- In His sacrifice on the cross, He underwent the **penalty** due for those who God justifies.
- The language and illustrations of the Old Testament sacrifices and types provide the vocabulary and understanding for the work of **Christ** in the New Testament.

Christ Jesus, The Satisfaction of God's Wrath (Isa. 53:5-6)

- The Lord Christ Jesus made a proper, real, and full satisfaction of God's **justice** on our behalf (propitiation).
- Christ's propitiation was **proper** – meaning fitting and acceptable as He is both truly God and truly man, our Mediator and covenant Head.

- Christ's propitiation was **real** – meaning that it was not symbolic or figurative, but He truly bore the full weight of the wrath of God on our behalf as a requirement of God's justice, not merely to demonstrate His love, hatred of sin, or have victory over sin (penal substitutionary atonement).
- Christ's propitiation was **full** – meaning that it is sufficient and efficient for the elect; there is no more wrath or sin on our account, but that Christ accomplished our redemption (particular atonement).

Justification: The Accepted Exchange (Heb. 10:14)

- The Son was given up by the Father for our **salvation**.
- The obedience and satisfaction of Christ was **accepted** on our behalf.
- Our justification is freely of God's **grace** – being willed by the Father, secured by the Son, and applied by the Spirit.

Application (Rom. 8:31-32)

- 1) Praise of God's Exact **Justice**: The cross is the demonstration of God's holiness and justice.
- 2) Praise of God's Rich **Grace**: The cross is the demonstration of God's grace (unmerited love and favour) towards sinners.