

Justifying Self

"Though I am righteous, my mouth will condemn me; Though I am guiltless, He will declare me guilty."
(Job 9:20)

Points Regarding Job

- Blameless & upright. **Job 1:8; cf. 2:10b**
- Afflicted at the instigation of Satan. **Job 1:10-12**
- Wife and friends turned against him. **Job 2:9; 5:17** (Eliphaz); **8:6** (Bildad)
- Self justification = condemnation. **Job 9:20**
- Yet, this was his outstanding fault. **Job 32:1-2; 34:5**

Examples Of Self-Justification

- Adam and Eve. **Genesis 3:11-13**
- Saul. **1 Samuel 15**
- The Lawyer. **Luke 10:25-37**
 - Forced to answer his own question. **Vs. 25-27**
 - Changed the subject. **Vs. 29**
- Pharisees. **Luke 16:1-15**
 - Would take any position to justify self. **Matthew 21:23-32**
 - Would belittle others to justify self. **Luke 18:11**

Self-Justification At The Judgment

- Many claim works to their credit. **Matthew 7:22-23**
- Some claim ignorance of their failures. **Matthew 25:41-46**

Reasons For Self-Justification

- To satisfy own conscience. **Proverbs 30:12; 27:2**
Revelation 3:17
- To receive man's approval. **Luke 16:14-15;**
Matthew 23:27-28
- To avoid God's condemnation. **cf. Adam & Eve, Saul, etc.;**
cf. Matthew 7:21-23

Present Day Efforts At Self-Justification

- Religious division. **1 Corinthians 1:10-13;**
John 17:17; 20-21
- "What will be will be..."
Romans 6:16-18;
Galatians 6:7-8

Present Day Efforts At Self-Justification

- "I'm better than _____."
**Luke 18:9-14; Matthew 7:1-5
John 7:24**
- "Hypocrites in the church."
2 Corinthians 10:12; 13:5
- "I had to go to church when a child,
but now I do what I feel is right..."
Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 14:12

Better To Acknowledge Sin & Accept Responsibility

- Bible Examples...
 - Saul. **1 Samuel 15:24**
 - David. **2 Samuel 12:13**
 - Daniel prays for the people.
Daniel 9:4-6
 - Achan. **Joshua 7:20**

Only God can justify us, through faith in Jesus Christ.

"...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus." (Romans 3:23-26)

God requires us to have a "working faith" to be justified.

"Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness," and he was called the friend of God. You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone." (James 2:21-24)

Commending ourselves will not make us approved to God.

***"For it is not he who commends himself that is approved, but he whom the Lord commends."
(2 Corinthians 10:18)***

What must we do to be approved to God?

***"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth."
(2 Timothy 2:15)***

We must be hearers of the word, **and** doers of the word.

***"Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves."
(James 1:21-22)***

We must believe the word, the gospel of Jesus Christ.

***"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."
(Romans 1:16)***
***"And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."
(Hebrews 11:6)***

We must repent of our sins.

***"Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."
(Acts 17:30-31)***

***"I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."
(Luke 13:3)***

We must confess Jesus Christ.

***"Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven."
(Matthew 10:32-33)***
***"...that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved..."
(Romans 10:9)***

We must be baptized for the forgiveness of our sins.

***"Peter said to them, 'Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"
(Acts 2:38)***

***"He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned."
(Mark 16:16)***

We must remain obedient servants of God all our lives.

***"And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation..."
(Hebrews 5:9)***
***"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord."
(1 Corinthians 15:58)***

When Christians sin, we must
repent and confess to God.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous..." (1 John 1:9-2:1)

How To Be Saved

HEAR THE WORD

James 1:21-22

BELIEVE IN JESUS

Romans 1:16; Hebrews 11:6

REPENT OF SINS

Acts 17:30-31; Luke 13:3,

CONFESS HIS NAME

Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9

BE BAPTIZED FOR FORGIVENESS

Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16

REMAIN OBEDIENT

Hebrews 5:9, 1 Corinthians 15:58