

Justification of God's Elect Romans 8:33

"Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth"

Justification is the judicial act of God whereby He accounts, declares, and treats all those for whom Christ died perfectly righteous; and without fault before Him, His elect being made the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus (II Corinthians 5:21).

The people of God are not judicially guilty of any offence whatsoever in the view of God. As it is written: "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more" (Hebrews 8:12). Someone will ask: how can such a thing be so? It is so, because God did impute all the guilt of all His elect of all ages, unto His only begotten Son, and executed Him as a guilty felon in the room and stead of His elect. The Sovereign of this universe charged His only begotten Son with all the sins, and the sin nature of His elect ones among the race of men; and caused His death under the penalty of divine law: so that He might be just and the justifier of the ungodly. As saith the prophet: "...and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Savior; there is none beside me" (Isaiah 45:21). And in the New Testament it is written: "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation (a satisfaction of divine law and justice: writer) through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; to declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus" (Romans 3:24-26). And the apostle saith: "Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. Even as David also describeth the

blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin" (Romans 4:4-8). Isaiah has written: "...for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities" (Isaiah 53:8-11). Speaking of Christ Jesus, the apostle Peter saith: "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls" (I Peter 2:24-25).

This question may arise in the minds of some persons: how can they return, who never knew God: as it is stated in I Peter 2:25? The question should not be about what men know; but who, did God foreknow in covenant love. The Sovereign of the Bible knows all His works from before the foundation of the world. As it is written: "Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world" (Acts 15:18). It is written: "...the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity" (II Timothy 2:19). The infinite God knows His chosen ones from everlasting and unto everlasting; and did, from all

eternity set them apart in Jesus Christ; and did swear by His Holiness That His covenant, in Christ Jesus, concerning His chosen ones, would endure to all eternity. As it is written: "I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles" (Isaiah 42:6). In the Psalms it is written: "I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David (Christ Jesus, the Son of David: writer) my servant, thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah. My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah" (Psalm 89:3-4; 34-37).

The covenant people of God, His elect ones, were chosen in Christ Jesus as members of His body. For He saith: "For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones" (Ephesians 5:30). The church of God is the fullness of the mysterious body of Jesus Christ, known of God from everlasting. This fullness of Christ is reckoned one in Christ and one with Christ from eternity past, from everlasting, and the body of Christ is beloved of God as is Christ Jesus. As it is written: "I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me. Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world" (John 17:23-24).

The church of God is separated unto God in the covenant of grace in Jesus Christ as the fullness of His mystical body; and is beloved of God with immutable love in Christ Jesus. The church was chosen in Christ before the fall of man in Adam, the church was chosen in pristine creature righteousness; but in the fall the church

with all the rest of mankind lost that legal standing before God, and had to be redeemed from the curse of the law. The church was given to Christ in eternity past, and so belonged to Him by the gift of the Father, she was lost in Adam, and returned in Jesus Christ her Lord. In her birth in nature the church knew nothing of all these things. It is the office of the Holy Spirit to teach the chosen of their inheritance in Christ. As it is written: "And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children" (Isaiah 54:13). The members of the church, being the members of Christ mystical by election of the Father, are sons of God; and have the inheritance of saints. As it is written: "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ" (Galatians 4:6). Our Lord Jesus saith: "It is written in the prophets, And they (all the elect of God: writer) shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me" (John 6:45). The elect return to God in the perfect righteousness imputed unto them through faith of Jesus Christ, having fallen in Adam: but returned to God in Jesus Christ, the last Adam. "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit" (I Corinthians 15:45). The lost things of Luke 15, were never the property of any other owner, they were only lost for a period of time and then returned to their proper Master. Such is the case of God's elect in Christ Jesus, they were known and beloved of God before the foundation of the world, they fell in the first Adam and returned in the "second man". As it is written: "The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven" (I Corinthians 15:47).

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Laws ...

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School District Governance – Senate Bill 1 will effectively revamp the governance structure of Jefferson County Public Schools by creating more specific responsibilities for superintendents and boards of education in large, complex school districts. The legislation also seeks to lay out a legal justification for why the general assembly has a compelling interest in intervening in large districts like Jefferson County.

School Leadership – Senate Bill 4 will create a new training program that provides leadership development and mentorship opportunities for new school principals in Kentucky. Other portions of the bill have already taken effect, including language that prevents an employee of any Kentucky school district from running for a school board seat in a large school district. Another portion that has already taken effect reduces the number of school board members in Jefferson County from seven to five.

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners – House Bill 134 aims to expand the availability of sexual assault nurse examiners across Kentucky. It calls for a statewide coordinator to recruit nurses, facilitate training and improve collaboration between hospitals, law enforcement and rape crisis centers.

Stalking – House Bill 521 seeks to modernize state stalking laws to align with contemporary legal standards and better address behaviors that occur through electronic communications and social media.

Status Offenders – Senate Bill 170 will create a four-year pilot program in up to 10 school districts to help address barriers to school attendance. It also aims to strengthen diversion of status offenders using Responsive Interventions to Support and Empower (RISE) teams and increased family involvement.

Storm Shelter Rebates – Senate Bill 11 will create a residential safe room rebate pilot program that helps homeowners pay for building emergency storm shelters. The goal is to provide matching grants using money from the Federal Emer-

gency Management Agency. The rebate fund would not include state appropriations.

Student Violence – Senate Bill 101 will mandate that school boards expel students in grades 6 through 12 for at least 12 months if the student recklessly, with a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument, or intentionally causes or attempts to cause physical injury to a school district employee on school property or at a school function. The bill includes some exceptions for students with disabilities.

Tax Money – Senate Bill 59 prohibits tax dollars from being used to advocate for or against a public question on a ballot. It also establishes criminal and civil penalties for violators.

Organ Donors – House Bill 510 aims to protect patients during the organ donation process by requiring additional verification steps before organ procurement can begin. It will also clarify that donor consent must be properly documented and that a patient must be formally declared dead before organs are donated.

Veteran Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder – House Bill 369 will create provisions in state law that make veterans eligible to receive hyperbaric oxygen therapy in response to post-traumatic stress disorder.

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NOTICE TO ELLIOTT COUNTY TAXPAYERS

Jennifer R. Carter, Elliott County Clerk pursuant to KRS 424.130, announces that the 2025 Delinquent Real Property Tax Bills (Certificates of Delinquency) will be published in the Elliott County News on July 24th, 2026. The list of certificates of delinquency is also available for public inspection during the hours of Monday thru Friday, 8 am until 4pm at the County Clerk's office located inside the courthouse in Sandy Hook, Ky. The list may also be inspected on the clerk's website <https://elliottcountyclerk.ky.gov>

The tax sale will be held on August 19th, 2026 beginning at 10:00 am. All interested participants must register with the County Clerk's office by the close of business on August 5th. Please contact the County Clerk's office if you need additional information about the tax sale registration process. Taxpayers can continue to pay their delinquent tax bills to the County Clerk's office anytime prior to the tax sale. Please note: All payments must be received in the County Clerk's office prior to the tax sale date listed (Aug 19th, 10:00 am). Payments received after the tax sale has been conducted will be returned without exception. Some delinquencies – although they have been advertised – will be excluded from the tax sale in accordance with the provisions of KRS 134.504(10)(b). IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE AT 606-738-5421.