



JUSTIFICATION

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ON LINE HELPS FOR THE TEACHER

Full-size and ready-to-print handouts, coloring pages, memory verse tokens and posters for this volume are available online. Visit shop.biblevisuals.org and search for item #A1020 for a ready-to-print PDF download.

Lesson 1

GOD, THE RIGHTEOUS ONE, JUSTIFIES

NOTE TO THE TEACHER

In this Visualized Bible series, the five volumes (Volumes 19 through 23) on Romans are really one unit. Each builds upon the other. For example, the subject of justification needs the background of the teaching on condemnation in the preceding volume.

In presenting this volume on the doctrine of justification, we need to be clear as to the meaning of the term. "Justification" means to declare righteous; to announce a right relationship. It does not mean to *make* righteous. As long as we walk the earth

in our human bodies, we shall retain the same sinful nature. In our earthly lives we shall never *be* completely righteous, but as Christians we are *declared* righteous and accepted as though we *are* righteous. How can this be? Because our faith is in the Lord Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and rose again for our justification.

We suggest that you teach the memory verse at the conclusion of this lesson.

Scripture to be studied: Romans 3:9–4:25

The aim of the lesson: To teach the meaning of justification: God declares Christian believers righteous even though they were once guilty sinners.

What your students should know: God declares righteous those who have trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ.

What your students should feel: A desire to be declared righteous.

What your students should do:

Unsaved: Believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and accept Him as Saviour.

Saved: Thank God for providing a way for them to be declared righteous.

Lesson outline (for the teacher's and students' notebooks):

1. God condemns sinners (Romans 3:9-20).
2. God is righteous—absolutely just (Romans 3:21-26).
3. Jesus Christ took the punishment for sin (Isaiah 53:6; 1 Peter 2:24).
4. God declares believers righteous (justified) (Romans 3:22).

The verse to be memorized:

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 5:1)

REVIEW

1. Who wrote the letter to the Romans that is in our Bible? (*Paul*)

2. What sort of person was Paul before he became a Christian? (*He was zealous and self-righteous, thinking he was pleasing God by persecuting Christians—even having them put to death.*)
3. How did he become a Christian? (*Let someone tell of his conversion on the road to Damascus.*)
4. How was he changed? (*See Romans 1:16.*)
5. What is the theme of the book of Romans? (*The righteousness of God*)

THE LESSON

1. GOD CONDEMNS SINNERS

Romans 3:9-20

In his letter to the Romans (1:18–3:20), the Apostle Paul told the believers that sinners are condemned by God.



Show Illustration #1a

Because God is holy and perfect, He cannot approve sin. The whole world stands before Him, the Judge of all the earth. And He, the righteous One, declares that sinners are guilty and sentences them to punishment. They are condemned.



Show Illustration #1b

How did God punish His favored people, the Jews, when, instead of worshiping Him, they worshiped the golden calf? (*Three thousand men were killed in one day.*)