

Gospel Truths - Peace with God



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Have you ever been afraid of someone who was angry with you? Maybe you had done something wrong and you knew you deserved to be punished. How did that make you feel? Have you ever been afraid of God?

The Bible says that God hates all sin and that he has promised to punish sinners like us. When we think about the fact that because of our sin God is against us, we should be very afraid! But the good news of the gospel is this; that all those who trust in Jesus have been **justified by faith**. What does it mean to be justified? It means that God makes a legal statement about us, like in a courtroom. God declares us innocent of all our sins. He declares that from now on all our sins belong to Jesus and all of Jesus' righteousness (his perfect obedience) belongs to us. How are we justified? We are justified by faith, by simply trusting in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. We can never do enough good things to earn our salvation. We can only be justified by trusting in Jesus alone.

Why is this important? Those who have been justified never need to be afraid of God. If you are trusting in Jesus you never have to worry that God is angry with you or that he will punish you because of your sins. Instead you can have **peace with God**. You can feel safe and secure knowing that God is now your loving heavenly father. He is always for you and never against you. God loves you always and forever.

How can the truth of this verse help you when you're tempted to think God is angry with you?