

Clarksville Church of Christ
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649
 (812) 944-2305
www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org

Sundays
 Bible Study..... 9:30 AM
 Worship.....10:30 AM
 Worship.....6:00 PM

Wednesdays
 Bible Study.....7:30 PM

Elders
 Allen L. Morris.....812-967-4536
 Stephen W. Nale.....812-948-9917

Deacons
 Jeffrey B. Hunt.....502-931-5766
 Elbert Metcalf.....812-246-5938
 Rondal O. Thompson Jr....812-944-8295

Evangelist and Editor
 Luke Capps.....317-220-9829
 Email:luke.capps@outlook.com

Beginning Our 67th Year Dec. 1, 2024

GOALS FOR 2025
Theme
“Respecting Bible Authority!”

- Giving:** Meet Our Yearly Budget
- Invitations:** 130
- Every Member Committed To Daily Bible Reading
- Every Member Committed To Daily Prayer
- Every Member Committed To Each Assembly
- Support the Work in Vincennes, Indiana
- Hold A Men’s Training Class
- Hold A Gospel Meeting
- Converting 10 People Per Month

-Like us on Facebook-View us on YouTube at Clarksvillechurch

Luke Capps
 will be preaching today.

We are on week # 4 of our daily Bible reading.

Prayer List
 Stephanie Metcalf, Don Dennison, Luann Metcalf, Ivan Rochner, Sharon Thompson, Peter Hunt, Mary McAfee, Sharon Nale, Polly Ward, Macon Ward, Debby Spears (Roseanna’s sis), Pam Caudill, Brooke Thomas, Debbie Lewelle, Jimmy Wilson, Cathie Hall sadly passed away

THEME THIS MONTH:
 Living In The Spirit (Galatians 5:25)

What’s the Point?

Who Have You Invited To Services This week?

Lord’s Supper Reading
 Isaiah 53:7ff

Scripture Reading
AM: 1 Peter 5:12
PM: Isaiah 36:4-5

Encouragement Tally
 Invites this month 5
 Invites last month: 15
 Visitors YTD:

Place Stamp Here

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Our Theme for 2025...
“Living In The Spirit”
 Galatians 5:25
 Clarksville Church of Christ
 407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwy.
 Clarksville, IN 47129
First Service December 7, 1958

Volume 37 Number 3

The
Clarksville Beacon
[www. Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org)

Clarksville Church of Christ



God’s Grace and Me

How Does God Make Sinners Righteous? (1 Peter 5:12)

I. Saved By God’s Grace

- A. We are hopeless without God’s grace (1 Peter 5:12).**
- B. We are only justified by God’s grace through faith (Eph. 2:8-10).**
- C. God’s grace is under attack (1 Peter 2:16; Jude 3-4).**

II. God’s Grace Distorted

- A. By the false Calvinist doctrine of the Imputation of Christ’s Righteousness on the Believer.**
- B. This doctrine relies on the mis-defining of the word “impute” (Rom. 4:6).**

III. Why Does This Matter?

- A. This is God’s grace we’re talking about (Gal. 1:6ff)!**
- B. This doctrine corrupts Christ’s sacrifice (2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 9:11-14).**
- C. Brethren are being influenced by it.**
- D. It draws an offensive caricature of God.**

Welcome!
 If you’re visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and we want you to feel like our honored guest! We also want you to know that all we’re interested in here at the Clarksville Church of Christ is the Truth. Jesus said, *“You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”* John 8:32. The truth He’s talking about is God’s word. Jesus said, *“Sanctify them by thy truth, Thy word is truth.”* John 17:17. Therefore we hope you’ll appreciate that we’ll give you book, chapter and verse from the Bible, the word of God, for everything that we say or do here today, so that everything that we do may bring glory unto God, 1 Peter 4:11.

VISITORS
 Please fill out a visitor’s card or scan the QR code below and provide the information requested.



In Whom Do You Trust?

Isaiah 36:4-5

I. The Enemies of God: Attack Faith In God

- A. They don't even understand who they're trying to undermine (1 Chronicles 32:18-19).
- B. They misinterpret Scripture (Isaiah 36:7; cf. 2 Kings 18:3-6; 2 Peter 3:14-18).
- C. They make themselves The Authority (Isaiah 36:9-10).
- D. They insult (Isaiah 36:13-20; cf. 2 Chronicles 32:7-8).

II. The Servants of God: Keep Confidence In Him

- A. They seek God first and foremost (Isa. 36:21-37:4; cf. 2 Kings 18:5-6).
- B. They are busy doing what they're able (2 Chron. 32:1-5).
- C. They balance doing what they can while relying on God for what they can't (Is. 37:14-20).

III. The Victory of God: Undoubted and Assured

- A. God wins (Isa. 37:22-23; 2 Kings 6:15-17).
- B. God was and is always in control (Is. 37:24-29; cf. Rom. 8:31).
- C. God wins, and it's not even close (Isa. 37: 35-38).

Luke Capps

Spiritual Food for Spiritual Thought

Calvinistic Imputation: Theological Buck Passing

Man likes to shift responsibility away from himself. If he stumbles over his own big feet, he looks around to see who tripped him up. If he is assigned responsibility, he often looks around for someone to whom he can pass it. The buck passing game started with our first parents. Adam sinned against God and said, The WOMAN whom THOU gavest to be with me SHE gave to me and I did eat" (Gen.3:12). Eve, likewise, refused to accept responsibil-

-ity for her action. She said, "The SERPENT beguiled me, and I did eat" (Gen.3:13). Their efforts failed. They were punished for their sins and the entire human race suffers death (physical) as a result of it (1 Cor. 15:22). Many of Adam's and Eve's descendants are blaming their sin upon that first pair. This is theological buck passing.

Religionists, influenced by Calvinistic concepts of imputation, are great buck passers. First, there is supposed to be the imputation of Adam's guilt upon the whole human race. This relieves the race of responsibility of their having become sinners in the first place. They are sinners by virtue of the fact that they were born descendants of Adam. Secondly, the supposed remedy for imputed sin is a second imputation -- the imputation of Jesus' perfect life to the sinner. You see, the sinner in Christ may go on sinning (because being in the flesh he cannot help it), but he doesn't need to worry about it because Christ lived a sinless life in his stead. Hence, a man is relieved of the responsibility of a godly life and even the responsibility of correcting his wrongs, because he will not be judged for his own actions but by the perfect life that Jesus lived. A rather convenient buck passer, wouldn't you say?

You and I must accept the responsibility for our sins. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die.. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him," so reads Ezekiel 18:20. The guilt of sin is a personal matter. I cannot blame all my guilt upon Adam for having sinned. While I may suffer the consequences of another's error, I do not suffer the guilt. Paul wrote, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in HIS (not Adam's nor Christ's --FOB) body, according to that which HE (not Adam nor Christ--EOB) hath done, whether it be good or bad."

You and I must accept responsibility for living godly . Jesus did live a perfect life, making Him a perfect sacrifice for my sins, without any spot or blemish, leaving me a perfect example for my life - -but His perfect life is not imputed to me, Our lives are made righteous through pardon and not imputation - -there is a vast difference. Jesus died for my sins (Matt.26:28;Rom.5:8-9). His atoning death provides for my pardon-- if I will face up to my responsibility for sins by repenting and obeying God's law of pardon (cf. Acts 2:38: 1 John 1:7-9). Then, it is not a matter of God's playing a child's game of "let's pretend." Calvinistic imputation is a "pretend" game--man is not really righteous, but God pretends that he is, because Jesus was righteous. Pardon of sin is not a "pretend game" -- man actually becomes unrighteous because of his own sins, God removes those sins by the blood of Christ. Man actually becomes righteous. because his sins are no more (Heft 10:1-4).

The word, "impute," is mentioned nine times in the New Testament. Six of these are found in Romans 4. Calvinists sometimes claim that they find their concepts of imputation in these verses. Not so! "Blessed is the man to whom God will not impute sin" (Rom.4:8) does not say that God simply does not take account of a Christian's sins. The man to whom God will not impute sin is the forgiven man (read verse 7), not the sinning man. Some think they see their version of imputed righteousness in Romans 4:22. The idea is that the believer is not really righteous, but that God accounts (pretends) him so, because his faith is imputed to him for righteousness. They would have the expression, "for righteousness", mean INSTEAD of righteousness. The expression is "eis dikaiosunen" in the Greek. Hence, it is "eis" (unto or in the direction of) righteousness. Just like repentance and baptism is "eis" (unto) the remission of sins (Acts 2: 38). Our faith in the blood of Christ and our obedience to the faith makes us truly righteous--not just a pretended righteousness.

We must face up to our responsibility before God. We must accept the responsibility for our own sinfulness and repent of it. We must accept the responsibility for righteous living. If we fall short, we must accept the responsibility for it--ask God's forgiveness and try again. We cannot use the Calvinistic concepts of imputed sin and righteousness to escape our responsibility under God's gracious law.

Ed Bragwell (The Reflector, September 1975)