

A person stands on a rocky mountain peak with arms outstretched, illuminated by a vertical beam of light from the sky. A cross is visible on the peak to the left. The background shows a valley with city lights at dusk or dawn.

# GOD'S GRACE AND ME

How Does God Make Sinners Righteous?

# GOD'S GRACE



## 1 Peter 5:12

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother (for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!

- **Justification:** By grace through faith. (Eph. 2:8; cf. Rom. 5:1)
- The Bible constantly warns of those who distort this “true grace!” (Rom. 6:1-2; 1 Pet. 2:16; Jude 3-4)

# GOD'S GRACE Distorted

❖ **Calvinist doctrine:** *Imputation of Christ's Perfect, Righteous Life To Believers. ( Literally )*





## Christ's Righteousness (Perfect Life)

### Christ's Righteousness (Umbrella)

- Christ's perfect life/obedience/etc. "covers" the sinner so God only sees Christ.
- God does not see the sinner at all.
- Christ's righteousness "umbrella's" the sinner's unchanged/untransformed state

### Sinner Who Has Broken God's Law

- When God looks at the sinner, he doesn't view the individual's life/sins/(dis)obedience.
- There's no change in his behavior/actions/thoughts.
- "Justified" though sin remains in him.

**Sinner**

**Calvinism: False View of God's Grace & Justification**

# GOD

You have  
done as I  
asked!

*I haven't  
given up my  
sins.*

**Jesus**

Perfect Obedience  
Perfect Life  
Perfect Law-Keeper  
Perfect Purity  
Does God's  
Will

**Sinner**

Untransformed  
Disobedient  
Unrepentant  
Unchanged

**Calvinism: False View of God's Grace & Justification**


# God's Grace Distorted

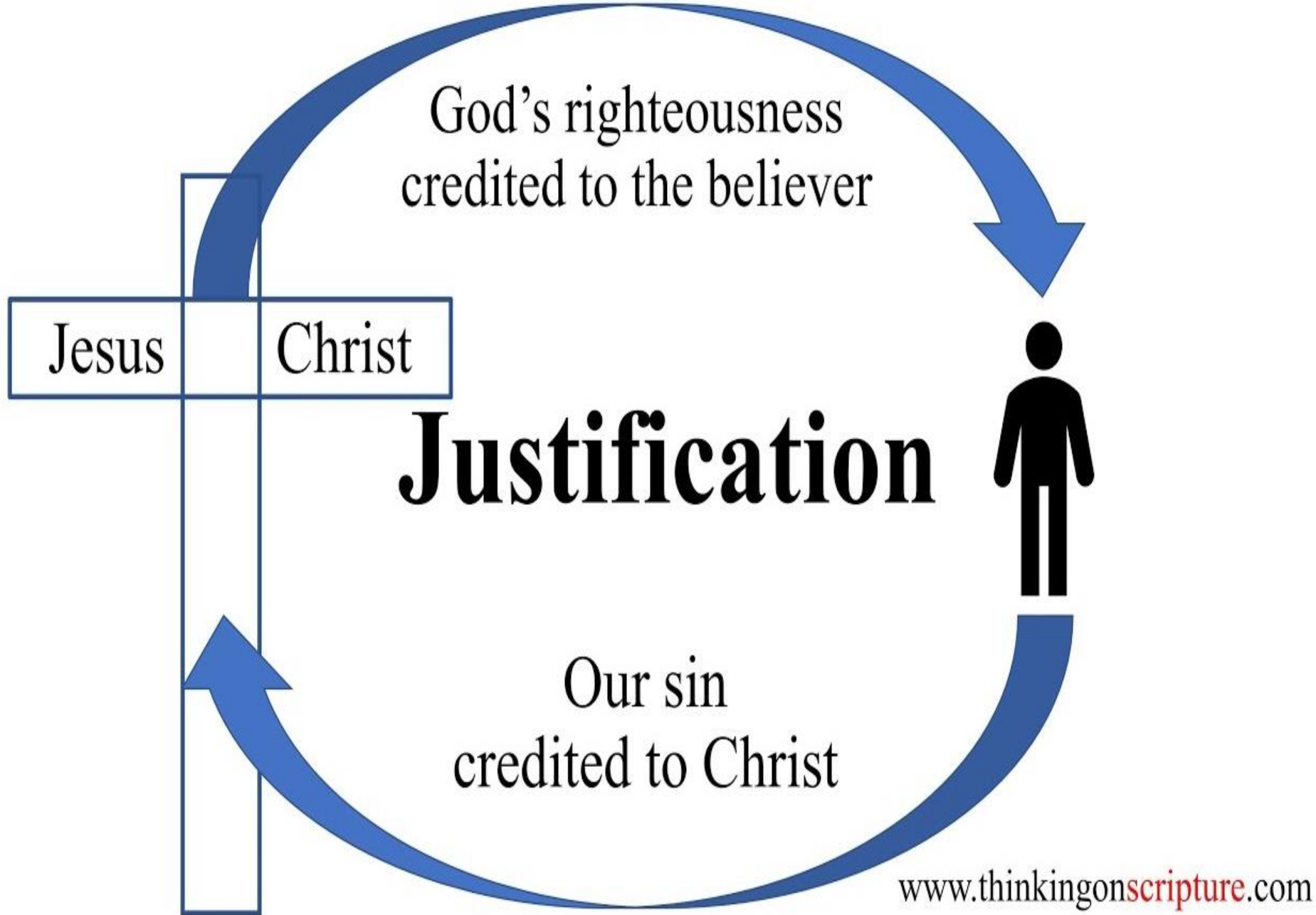


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❖ **Three Imputations:**

1. Adam's sin transferred to Man
2. Man's Sin Transferred to Jesus
3. Jesus' Righteousness Transferred To Man

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1. You are guilty for Adam's sin
  2. Jesus is guilty for your sin
  3. We are responsible for Christ's Righteousness



**Calvinism: False View of God's Grace & Justification**

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  1. You are guilty for Adam's sin
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(contrasting with scripture; Rom. 4)



# God's Grace Distorted



Albert Barnes on the word “Impute”  
(Romans, 102)

*“I have examined all the passages, and as the result of my examination have come to the conclusion, that there is not one in which the word is used in the sense of reckoning or imputing to a man that which does not strictly belong to him; or of charging on him that which ought not to be charged on him as a matter of personal right. The word is never used to denote imputing in the sense of transferring, or of charging that on one, which does not properly belong to him. The same is the case in the New Testament... No doctrine of transferring, or of setting over to a man what does not properly belong to him; be it sin or holiness, can be derived, therefore, from this word. Whatever is meant by it here, it evidently is declared that the act of believing is that which is intended, both by Moses and Paul.”*

# God's Grace Distorted



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# Why Does This Matter?



## This False Gospel...

- Perverts God's grace.  
(Gal. 1:6ff)
- Makes Jesus our Lord, corrupt and guilty of sin.  
(2 Cor. 5:21)
- Brethren are being influenced by this.  
(Ezek. 18:20-24)
- Draws a silly picture of God.

