

JUSTIFICATION (Part 2)

Justification

- The Meaning of J.
- The Need for J.
- God's Statements about J.
- The Importance of J.
- The Grounds of J.
- The Results of J.
- The "Differences" of J.
- The Means of J.



The Meaning of Justification: Definition.

- “Justification is the act of God’s free grace, wherein He pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in His sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed unto us, and received by faith alone” (Westminster Catechism).



The Meaning of Justification: "Righteousness / Just"

- "Righteous" and "just" are basically the same term: conformity to a standard; meeting all my obligations.

Justification
the 'Right' Words

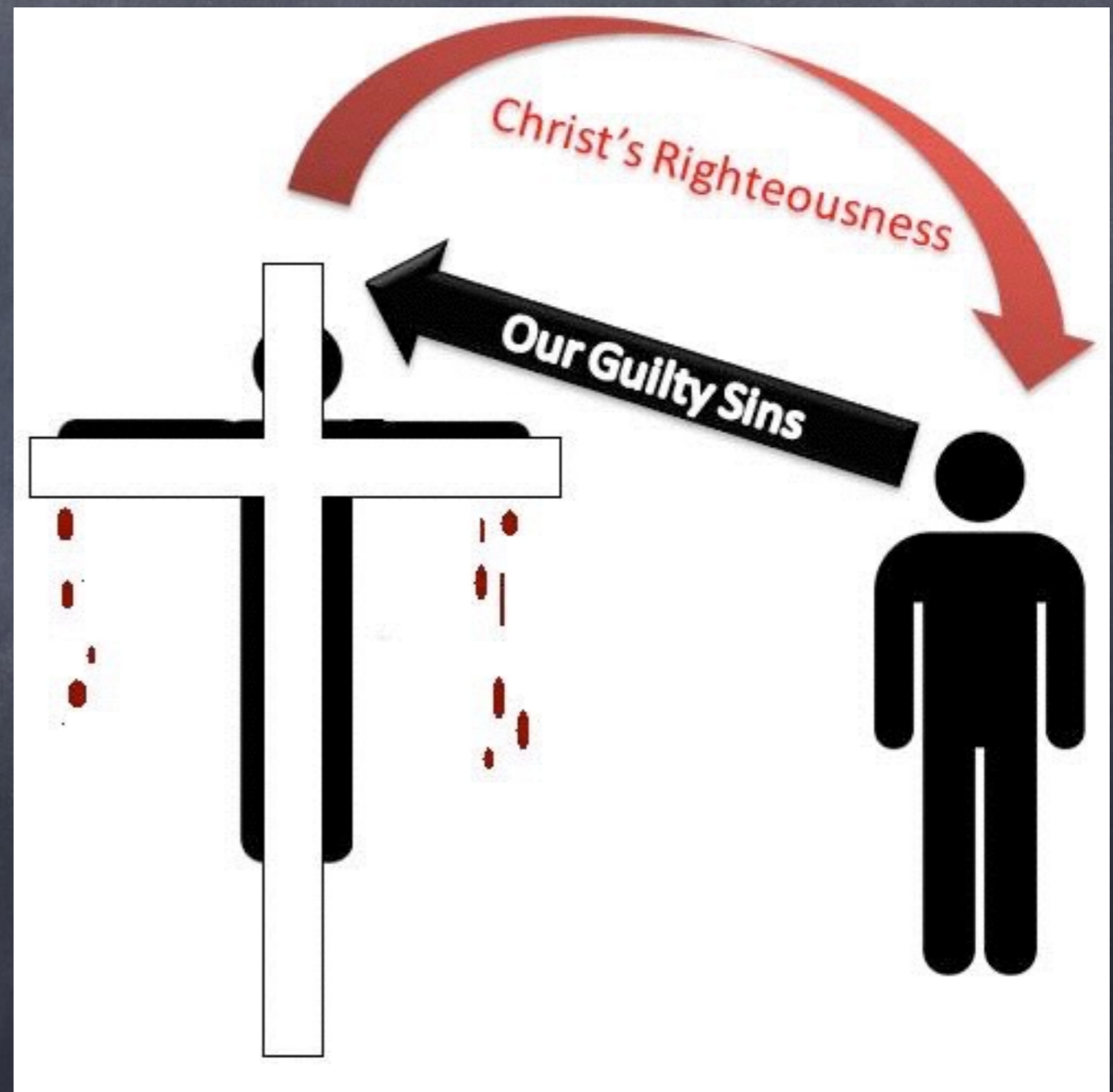
The Meaning of Justification: “Justification.”

- “Justification” is the Greek “dikaiosune.”
- The Latin uses “justificare” (“justus” = righteous + “facere” = to make or do). This puts sanctification preceding justification.
- The Bible states that He declares us righteous before we actually are righteous. This is good news!



The Meaning of Justification: “Impute (Imputation).”

- A legal counting, deeming & reckoning of someone to be something else by virtue of a transfer to that person's account.



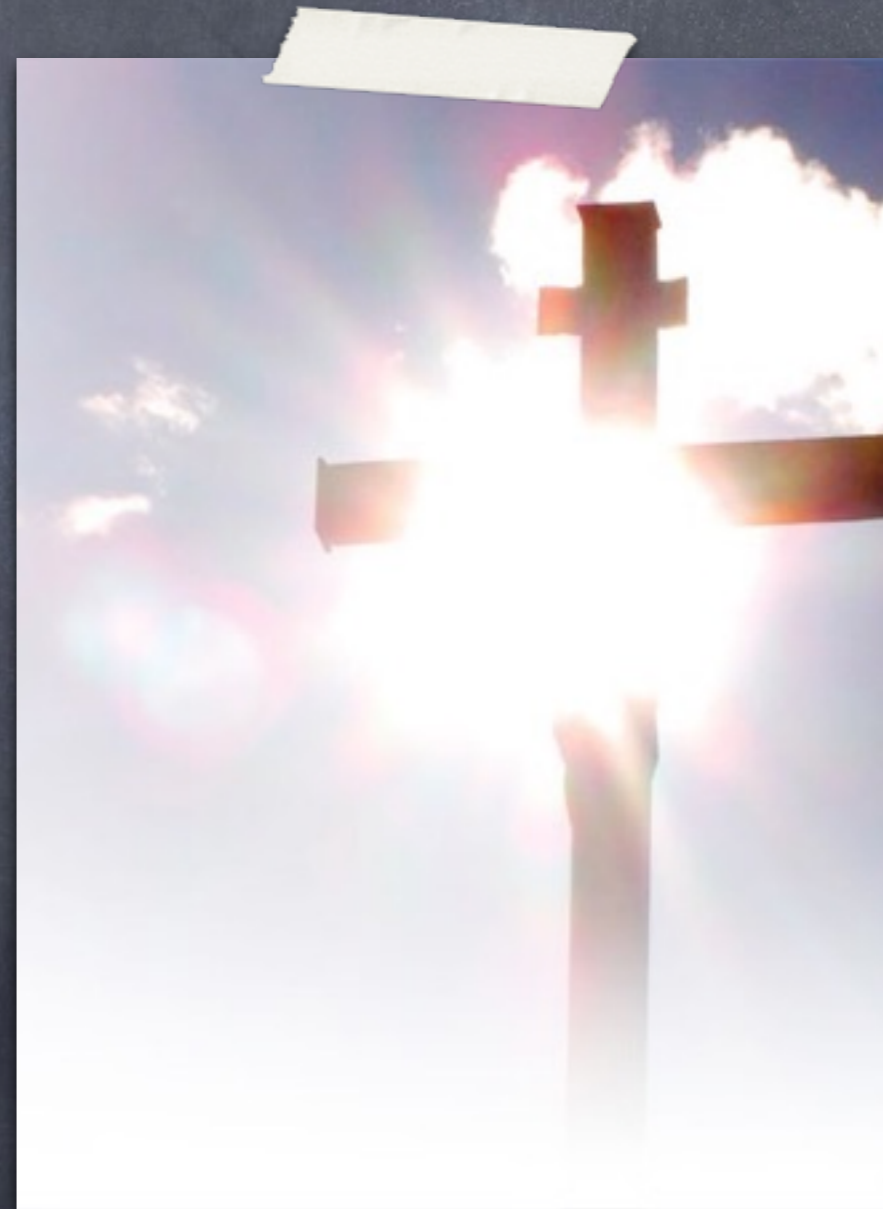
The Need for Justification

- God's inflexibility concerning His law. The demands of the law must be completely met and the broken law's penalty must be completely paid.
- Man's inability to keep God's law.



God's Statements about Justification & the Gospel: Greeting of Romans (Romans 1:1-7).

- Romans 1:1 – “Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God.”
- This is God's gospel (God is the Source).



God's Statements about Justification & the Gospel: Theme of Romans (Romans 1:16-17).

- 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

**I AM NOT
ASHAMED of
the GOSPEL of
CHRIST. Romans 1:16**

God's Statements about Justification & the Gospel: Theme of Romans (Romans 1:16).

- It (the gospel) is the power of God unto salvation for all who believe. We live in a time when the church is intoxicated with method, technique, and programs, seeking to discern what programs will assist us in increasing the membership of our church. We are looking for power everywhere but where God has invested the power. If you want to unleash the power of God to your church, understand that God has chosen to invest His power in the gospel. And when we are faithful to proclaim that gospel, there is where the power is made manifest.



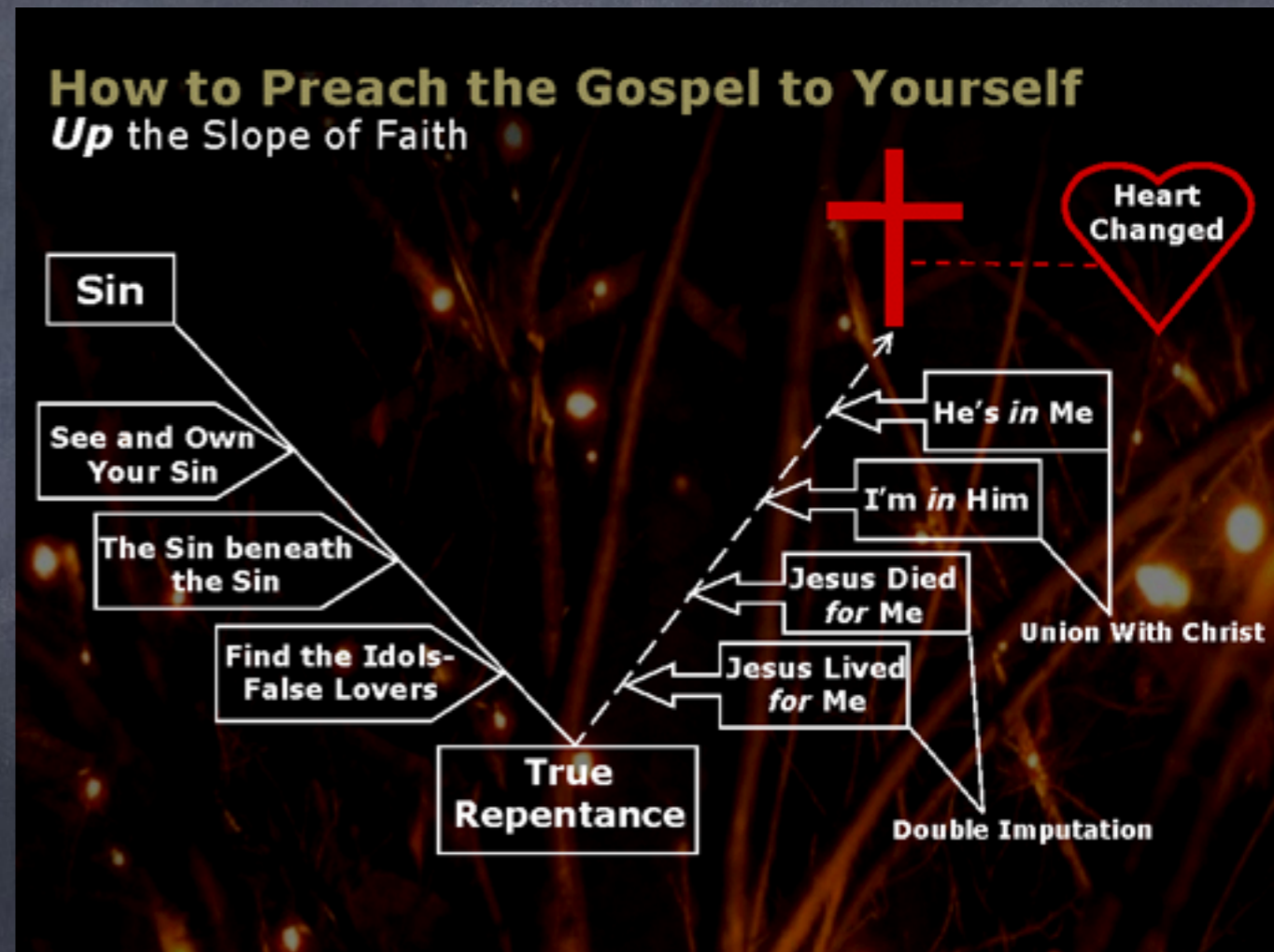
God's Statements about Justification & the Gospel: Theme of Romans (Romans 1:16-17).

- 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."



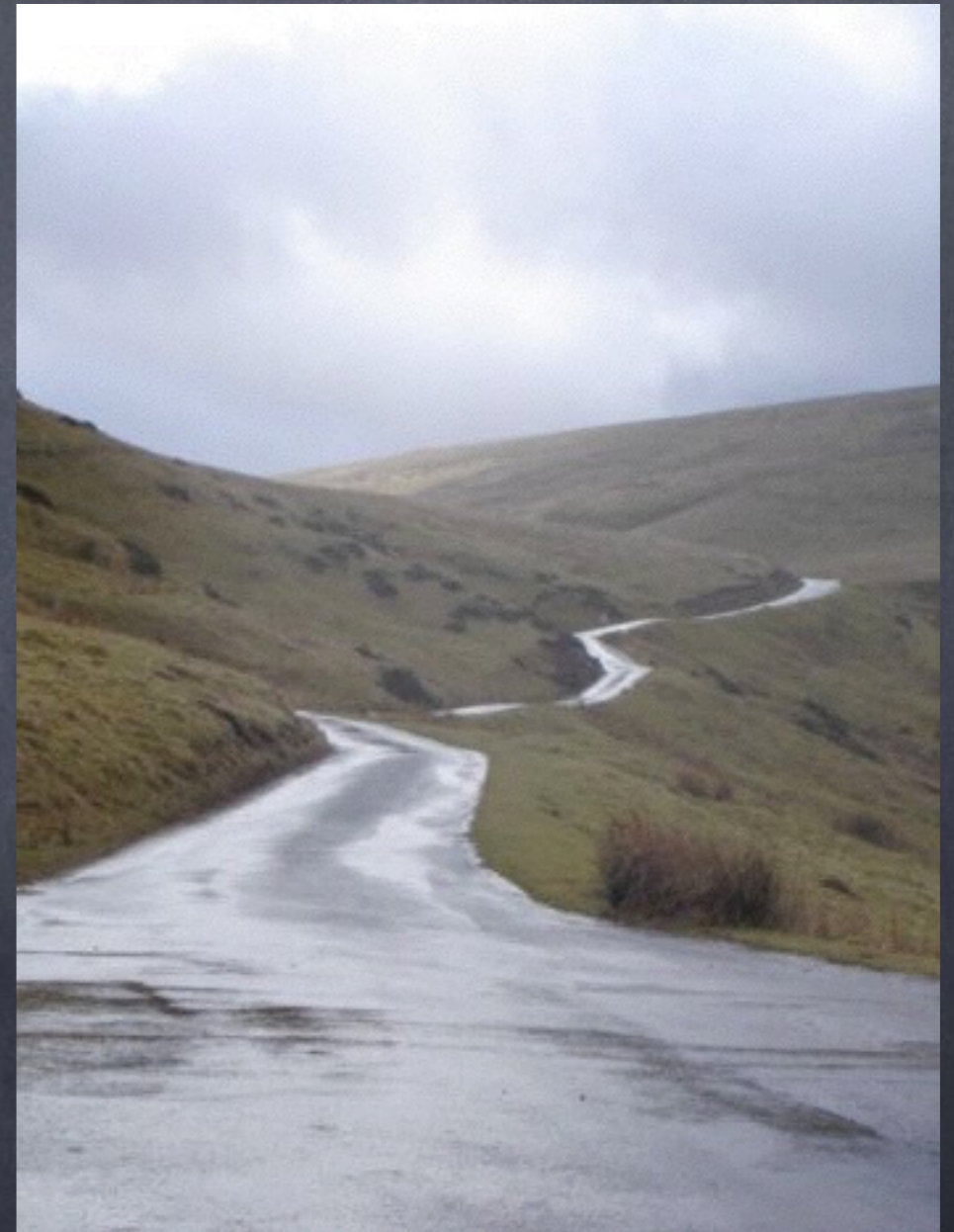
Notation on the Two Aspects of the Gospel

- Objective truth about Jesus.
 - His Person (Who He is).
 - Perfect God.
 - Perfect Man.
 - His Work (What He's done): lived, died, resurrected, ascended & returning for us.



Notation on the Two Aspects of the Gospel

- Subjective application of objective truth.
 - His life & death was pro novis (for us) and our salvation.
 - This comes by faith alone.



The Importance of the Doctrine of Justification by Faith Alone: Essential to the Gospel

- God says that it is a matter of being anathematized or not in Galatians 1:8-9.
- But even if we, or an angel from Heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.



The Importance of the Doctrine of Justification by Faith Alone: Essential to the Gospel

- Martin Luther drew his line in the sand here.
- “Justification is the article upon which the church stands or falls.”



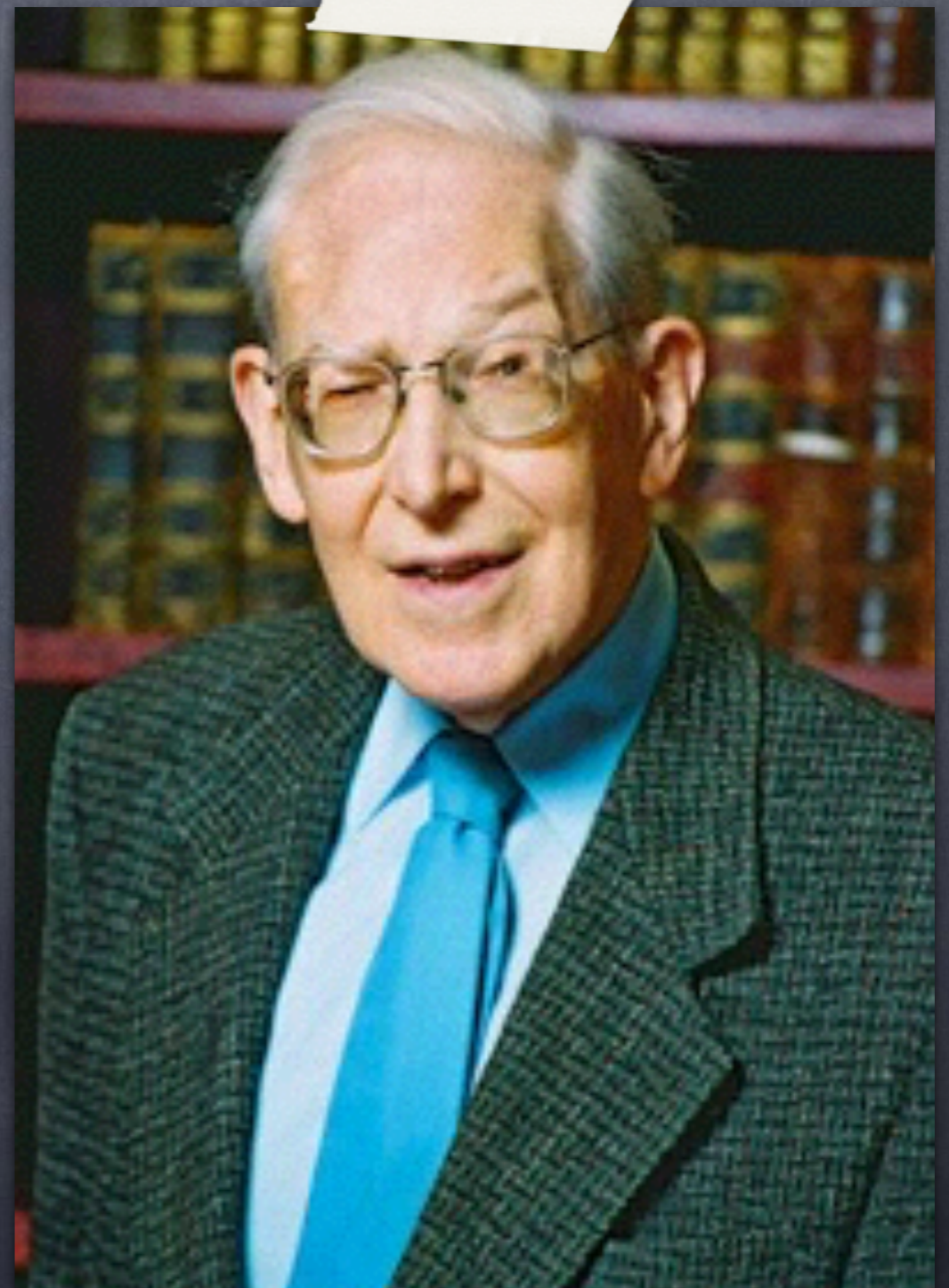
The Importance of the Doctrine of Justification by Faith Alone: Essential to the Gospel

- John Calvin stood here as well.
- “Justification is the hinge upon which everything turns.”



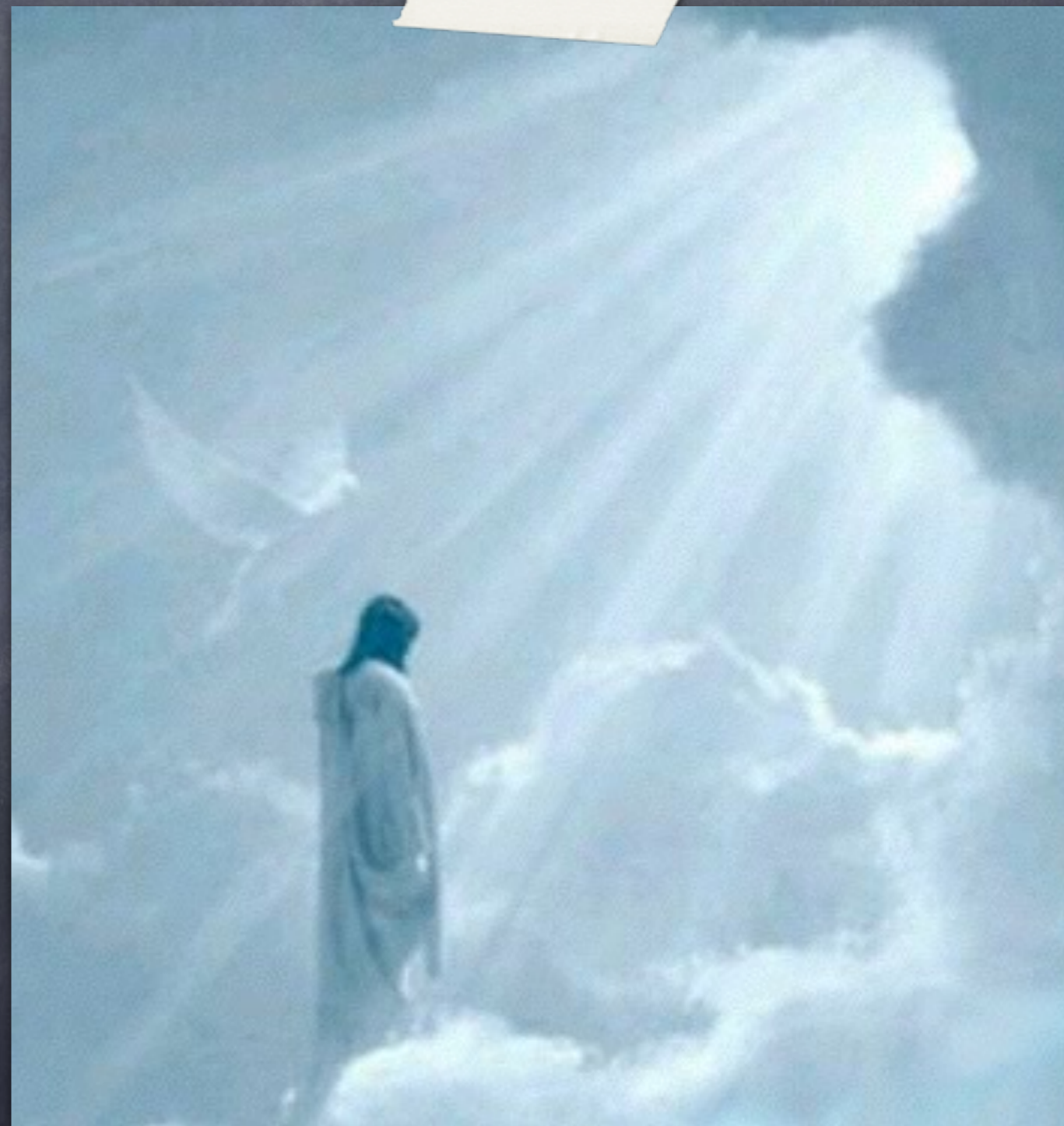
The Importance of the Doctrine of Justification by Faith Alone: Essential to the Gospel

- James I. Packer said the same.
- “Justification by faith alone is the Atlas upon whose shoulders every other doctrine of the Christian faith rests, so that if Atlas shrugs, everything crashes into ruin.”



The Ground of Justification

- What makes us just in God's sight?
- Jesus!
- Is the ground of our justification an inherent righteousness or someone else's righteousness?
- Our ground is a justizium alium that is extra nos (an alien righteousness that is apart from us): imputation.



Romans 3:24, 28; 4:3

- 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. 3 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."

The Ground of Justification: Jesus' Imputation.

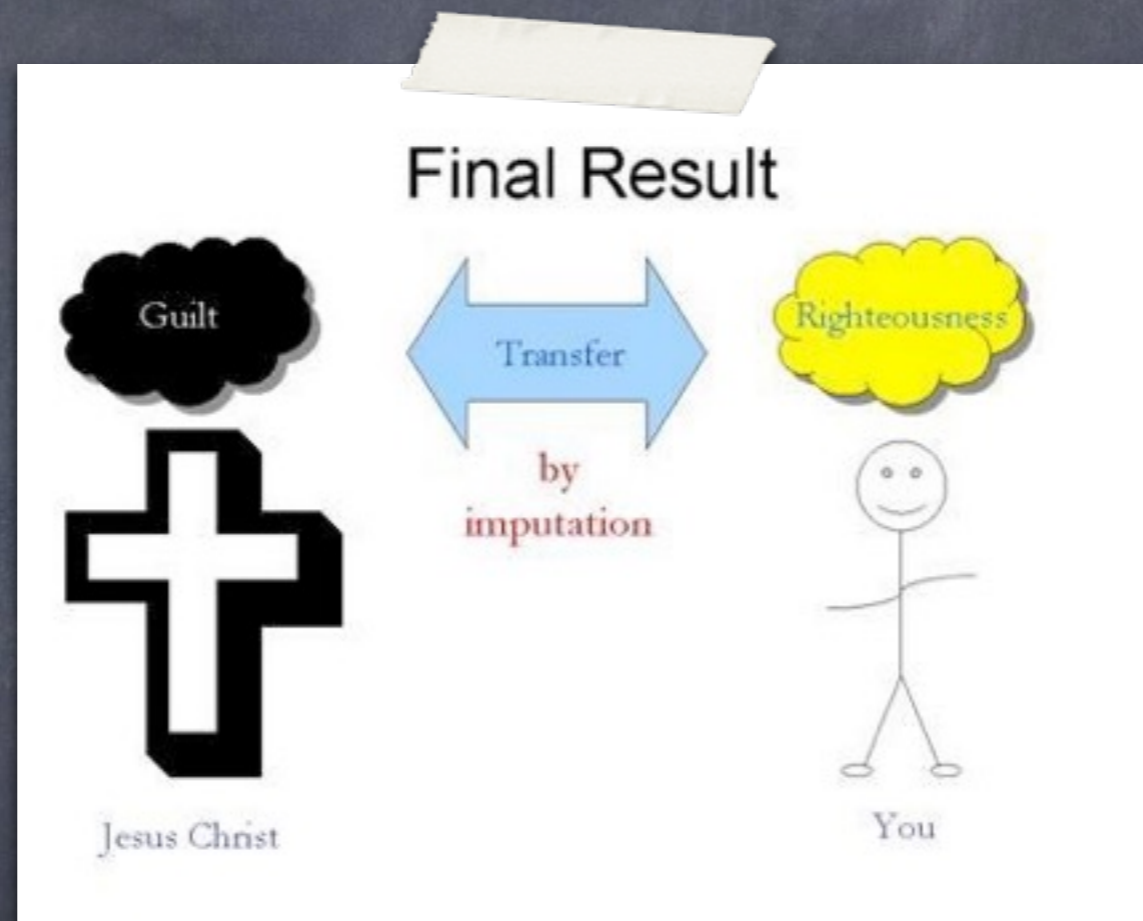
- We are justified by the life of Jesus.
- We are justified by the death of Jesus.
- This is a double imputation: our sins to Him; His righteousness to us.



The RCC Rejects This Double Imputation

- “This is illegal fiction. It is unworthy of God to reckon someone right who is not really right. God would be lying by saying that you’re righteous. This is a fiction beneath the dignity of God.”
- 2 Responses:
 - Get rid of the cross.
 - It is a real righteousness of Jesus.





The Results of Justification

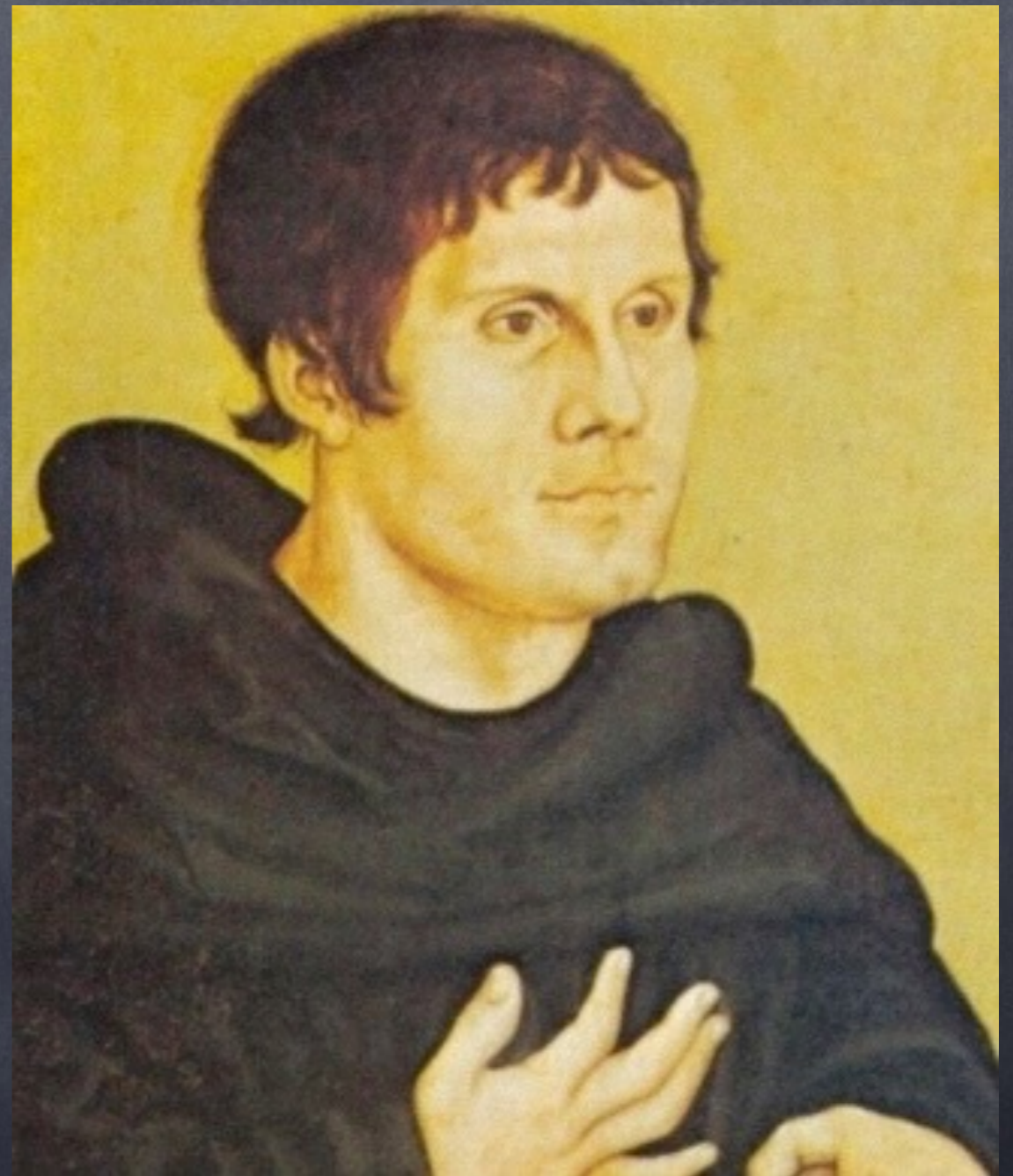
The Results of our Justification:

- Romans 5:1 – Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Pardon from our guiltiness.
- Positioning with Jesus.
- Peace.



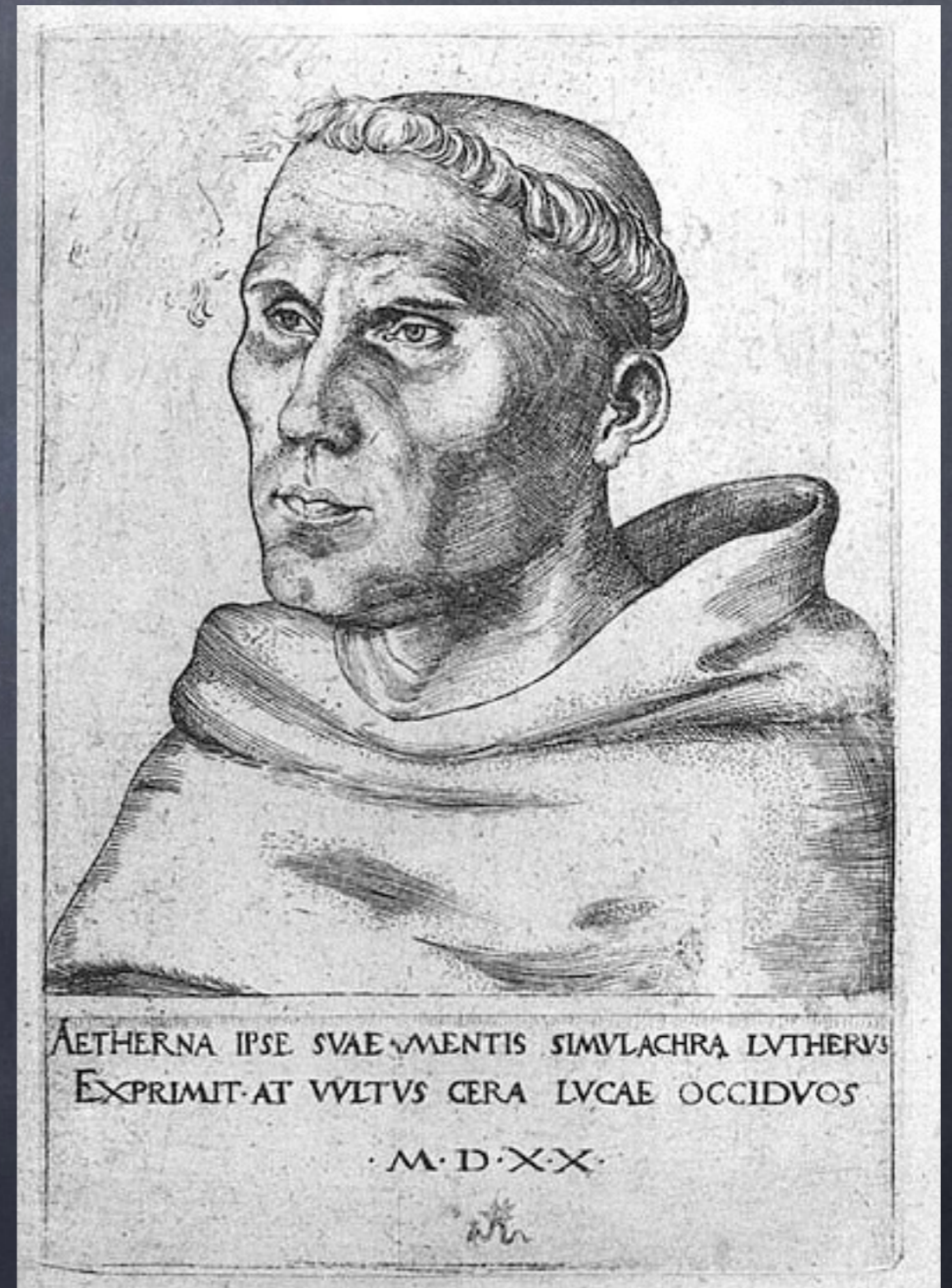
The First Fruits (Results) of our Justification: Peace

- Martin Luther tried to get this peace & became a monk.
- Luther was haunted by his own studies of the law.
- Luther spent 3-6 hours in the confessional every day.



The First Fruits (Results) of our Justification: Peace

- Luther had glimpses of that peace when lecturing on the Psalms.
- Psalm 130:3 – “If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?”
- “I can’t stand before a just and holy God because He does mark iniquities.”



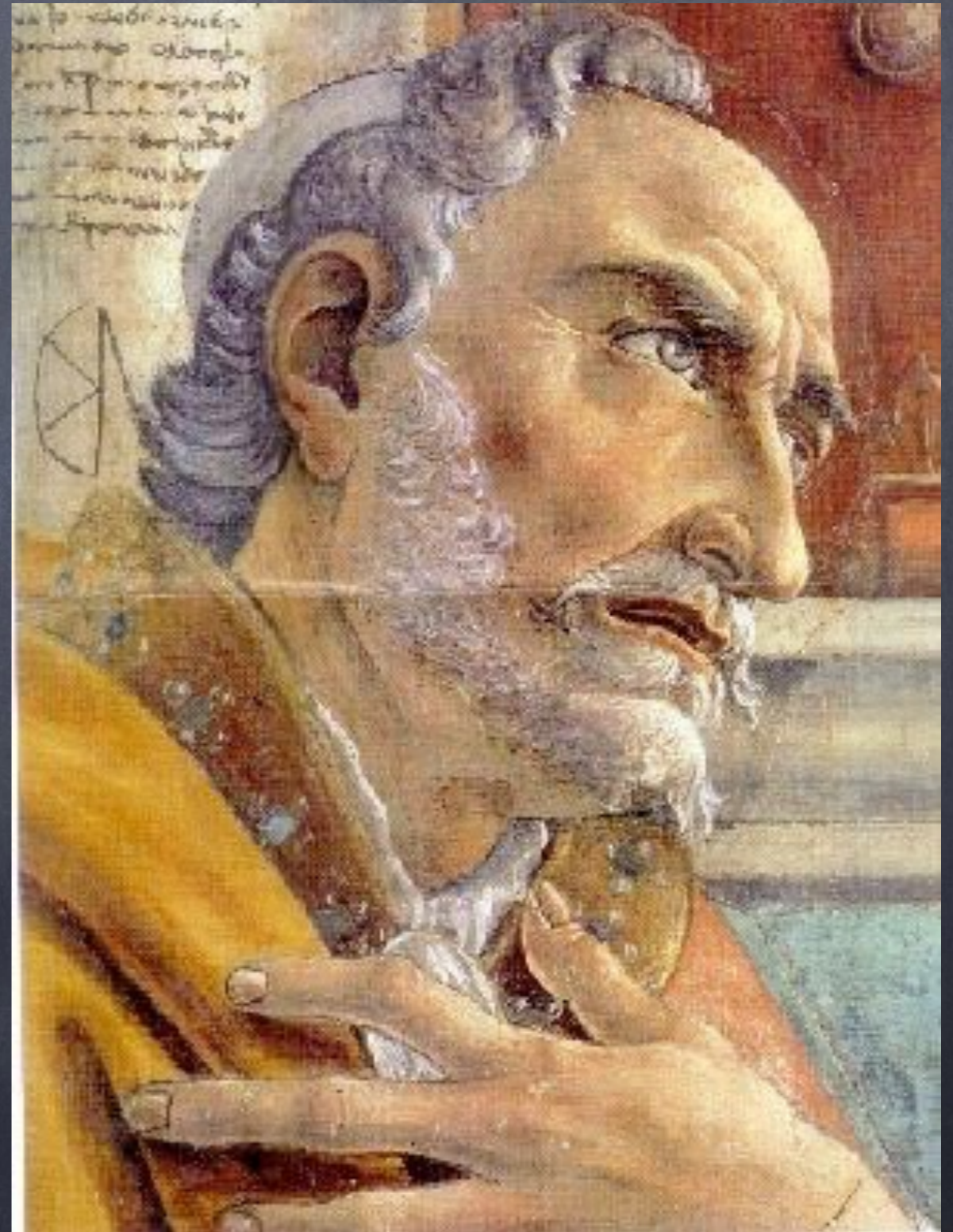
The First Fruits (Results) of our Justification: Peace

- “Sometimes you ask me if I love God. Love God? Sometimes I hate Him, because all I see is the judgment of Christ looming ahead of me.”
- Psalm 32:2 – “Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity.”



The First Fruits (Results) of our Justification: Peace

- Romans 1:16–17.
- Augustine: “Here, when the apostle speaks of the righteousness of God, Paul is not talking about that righteousness by which God Himself is righteous. Rather he is speaking about a different kind of righteousness: a righteousness that God makes available for those who lack it which is grasped by faith.”



The First Fruits (Results) of our Justification: Peace

- Luther: "For the first time in my life, I understood the gospel. And the doors of paradise swung open, and I walked through."
- Once he had this peace, he never let it go.



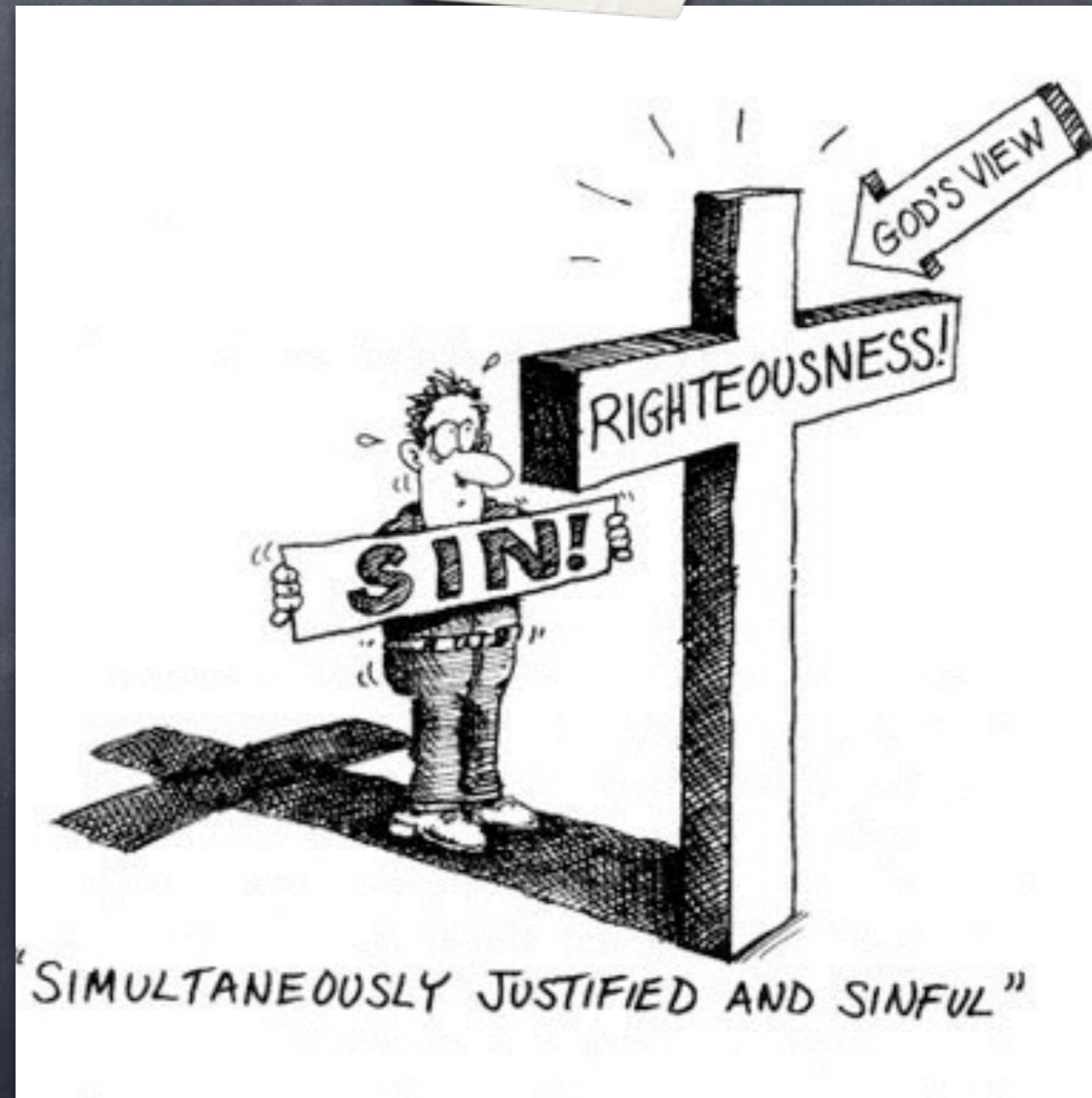
The Major Differences Between the Biblical View and the Roman Catholic View of Justification

- ◉ Indulgences, treasury of merit & purgatory.
- ◉ The act of justification happens while we are still sinners.



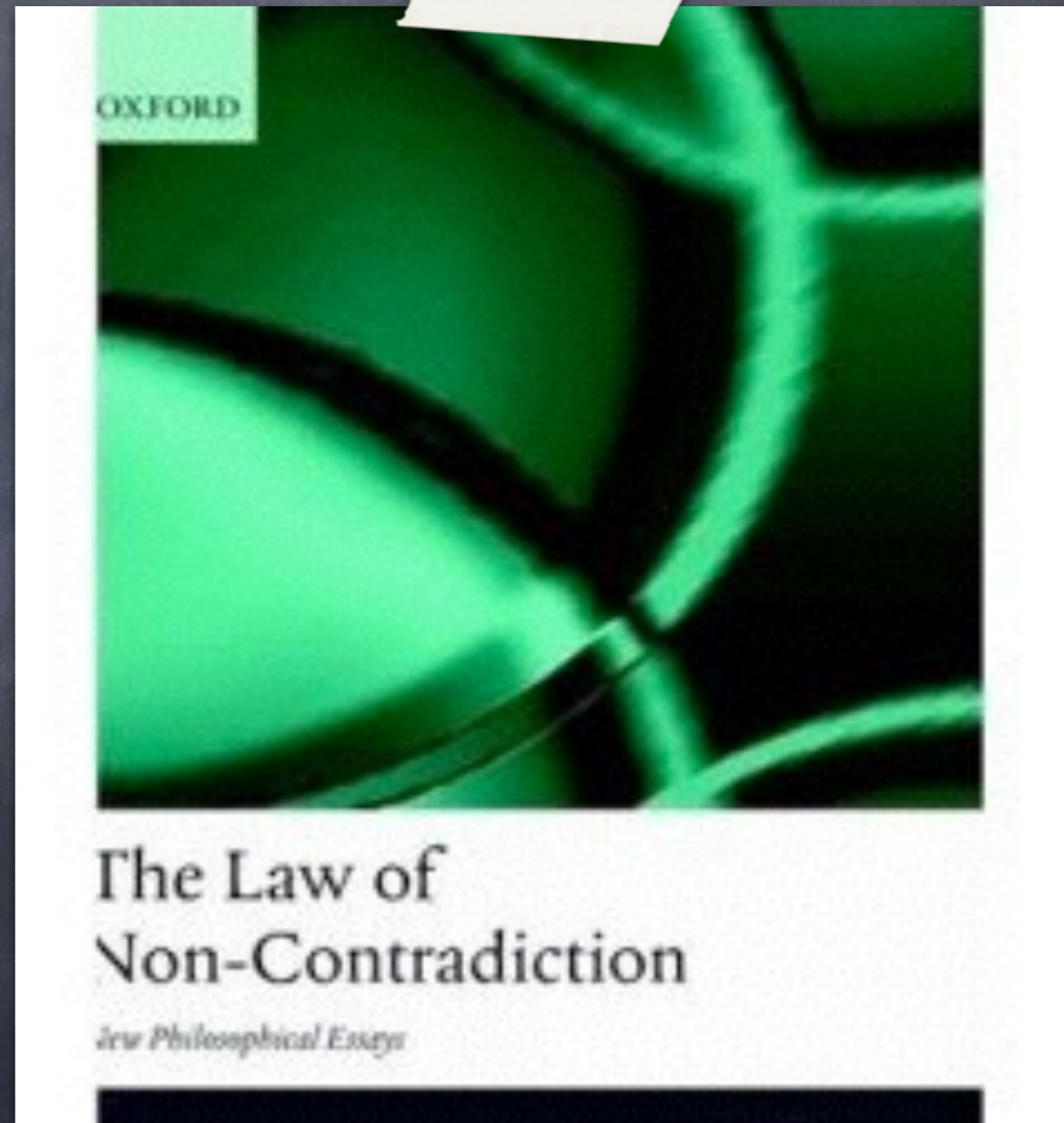
Simul Justus Et Peccator

- Simul (simultaneous) = at the same time.
- Justus = just, righteous.
- Et = past perfect form of "to eat."
 - Et = and.
- Peccator (peccadillo) = sinner.
- Gospel in a nutshell: at the same time we are just and a sinner.



Simul Justus Et Peccator

- This is a contradiction!
- The law of non-contradiction: "A cannot be A and non-A at the same time and in the same relationship."
- In our practice, we are sinners inherently, but in our position in God's sight, we are just.



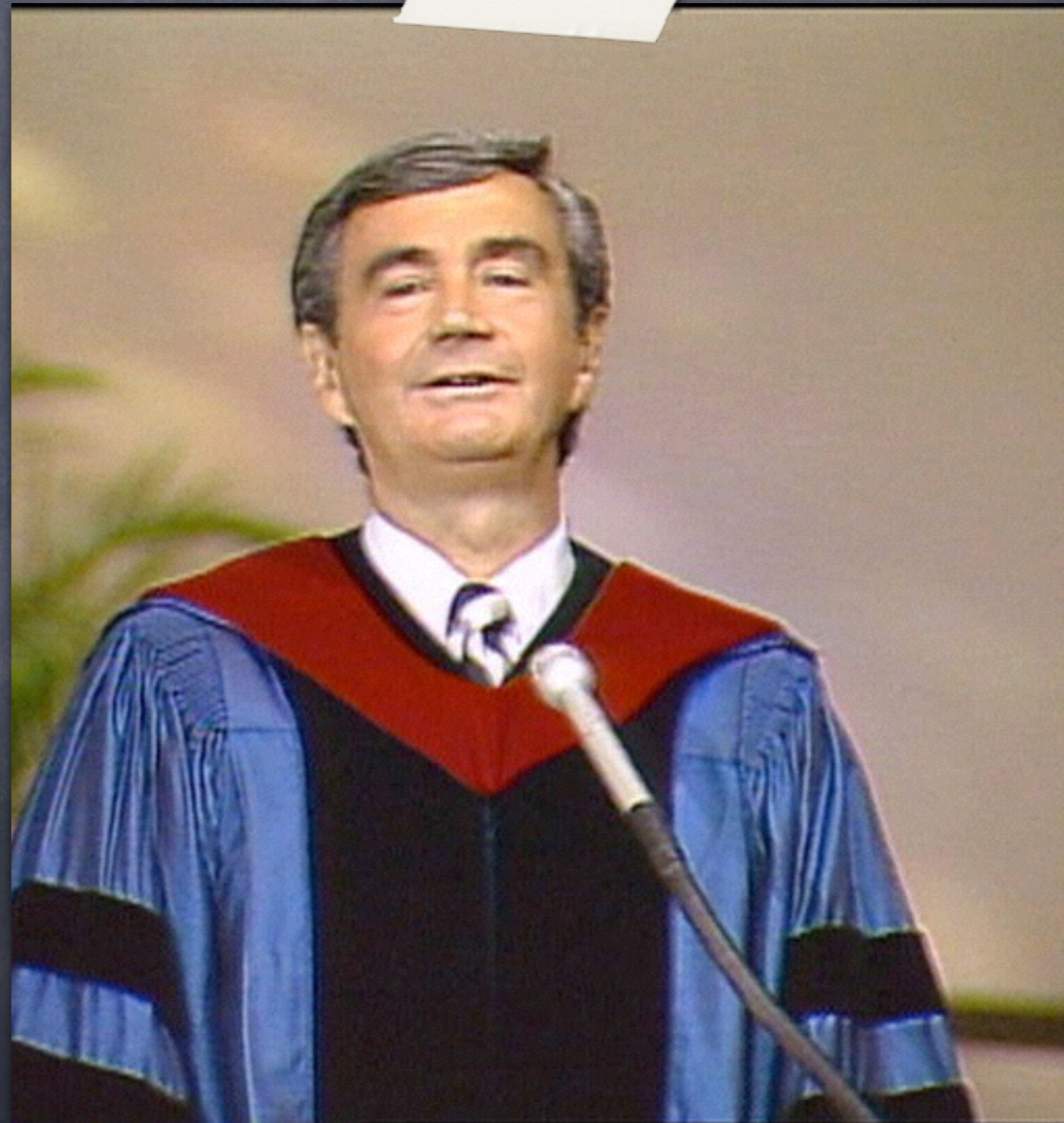
The Major Differences Between the Biblical View and the Roman Catholic View of Justification

- Indulgences, treasury of merit & purgatory.
- The act of justification happens while we are still sinners.
- The instrumental cause for justification is faith, not baptism.



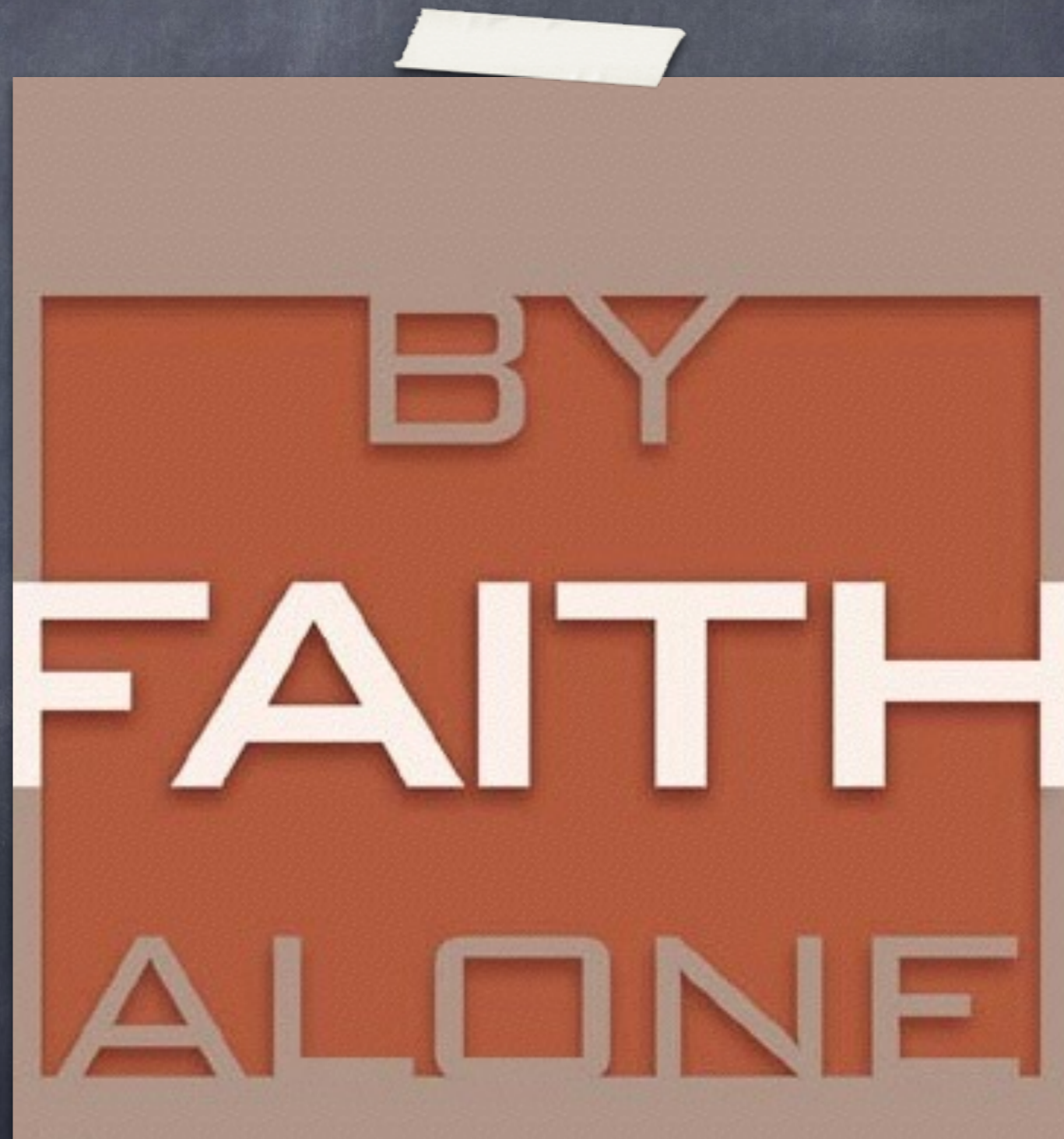
The Means of Justification: Faith Alone

- WHAT FAITH IS NOT.
- Faith is not just believing these things to be true.
- James 2:19 – “You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!”
- “If you believe in the sense that you are willing to affirm that you believe in Jesus, that only qualifies you to be a demon” (D. James Kennedy).



The Means of Justification: Faith Alone

- WHAT FAITH IS.
- 3 Aspects of faith:
 - Notitia: know the facts.
 - Assensus: believe the facts are true.
 - Fiducia: commitment to trust Jesus.



The Means of Justification: Faith Alone

- The means (instrumental cause) is not baptism.
- The means is not the doctrine of justification.
- The means is not the profession of faith.

**We are saved by
FAITH ALONE
in Jesus Christ**

HIS PERSON

HIS WORK

NONE MORE

NONE ELSE



**Neither is there salvation
in any other: - Acts 4:12a**

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The Means of Justification: Faith Alone.

- Matthew 7:22-23. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'
- Matthew 15:8. These people honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me.



Justification

- Psalm 130:3 – “If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?”
- Only those whose nakedness has been clothed with the righteousness of Jesus that God gives freely to all who believe.
- “For the just shall live by faith.”

