

FREE AT LAST! THE MESSAGE OF GALATIANS
December 3, 2009

The Justifying Gospel – Galatians 2:15, 16

Underlying premise of the text: Everyone must be justified before God.

- A. We were created righteous.**
- B. We have lost our righteousness through the fall.**
- C. We can regain our righteousness through the gospel.**

2:15, 16a, c I. No one will be justified by works of the law.

:15, 16a A. Religious people.
“We who are Jews by birth and not ‘Gentile sinners’ know that a man is not justified by observing the law...”

:16c B. Non-religious people.
“...because by observing the law no one will be justified.”

2:15b II. All people will only be justified through faith in Jesus Christ.
“...but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law...”

- A. through faith
 1. Not through faith plus effort.
 2. Not through intellectual assent.
 3. Not because of faith.
- B. in Jesus Christ.
 1. Not in Christ’s work in me.
 2. Not in Christ’s work through others.

So what?

Justification by faith in Jesus Christ sets us free from guilt and fear.
Justification by faith in Jesus Christ gives us the assurance of our salvation
Justification by faith in Jesus Christ exalts the grace of God.
Justification by faith in Jesus Christ humbles the saved sinner.
Justification by faith in Jesus Christ unites the Church.

End