

WEEK SEVEN

Our Past | Justification



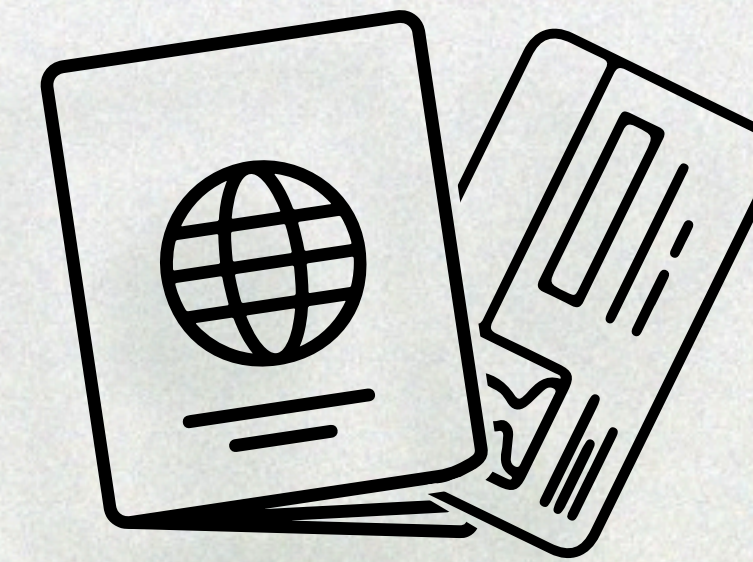
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Identification with Christ is demonstrated by a desire to know Him in every facet of our lives.

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Philippians 3:1a ^{NIV}

Further, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you.

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Philippians 3:2 ^{NIV}

Watch out for those dogs, those evildoers, those mutilators of the flesh.

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Philippians 3:2 ^{NIV}

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Philippians 3:3-4a ^{NIV}

For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, who boast in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh—⁴ though I myself have reasons for such confidence.

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Philippians 3:4b-6 ^{NIV}

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

**A fully devoted follow of Christ,
filled & empowered by the Holy Spirit
is an unstoppable force!**

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Acts 8:3 ^{NIV}

But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.

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Acts 9:1-2 ^{NIV}

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord’s disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.

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Acts 22:4-5 ^{NIV}

I persecuted the followers of this Way to their death, arresting both men and women and throwing them into prison, ⁵ as the high priest and all the Council can themselves testify. I even obtained letters from them to their associates in Damascus, and went there to bring these people as prisoners to Jerusalem to be punished.

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Philippians 3:7-8a ^{NIV}

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things.

Position

Power

Prosperity

Peace

2 Corinthians 11:23b-24 ^{NIV}

I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again.

²⁴ Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one.

2 Corinthians 11:25-28 ^{NIV}

Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, ²⁶ I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. ²⁷ I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. ²⁸ Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 ^{NIV}

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸ So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

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Philippians 3:8b-9 ^{NIV}

I consider them garbage (position, power, prosperity, peace), that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.

Justification!

“Paul had to lose his religion before he could gain the righteousness of Christ.”

- Warren Wiersbe

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Ephesians 2:8-9 ^{NIV}

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

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Romans 8:1 ^{NIV}

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus...

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Romans 3:24 ^{NIV}

...and all are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

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Romans 3:28 ^{NIV}

For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

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Romans 5:1 ^{NIV}

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...

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Romans 5:9 ^{NIV}

Since we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through Him!

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Romans 10:10 ^{NIV}

For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

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Philippians 3:10-11 ^{NIV}

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,
¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.