

## JUSTIFIED BY GOD: THE END OF ALL ACCUSATION

### Part 20 Romans Chapter Eight

Romans 8:33 Berean Literal Bible

Who will bring an accusation against *the elect* of God? God *is* the *One* justifying.

### The Elect

NB: Look at what Paul calls us here – ‘The Elect of God’.

Paul doesn't call us ... ‘Those who believe’ or ‘*Those who love God*’ or ‘Sons of God’ but ‘THE ELECT OF GOD’. This is important and very specific. The ‘Elect’ refers to us as those who have been chosen by God ... before we were born ... to fulfil His magnificent purpose. You have been chosen and called, not according to your performance but by His grace alone ...

### EVERY BELIEVER IS CHOSEN BY GOD ... REGARDLESS OF THEIR INADEQUACIES

1 Thessalonians 1:4 Berean Study Bible

*Brothers who are (1) beloved by God, we know that (2) HE HAS CHOSEN YOU.*

Romans 9:11 **SLIDE**

*For the children [Jacob and Esau] not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil ... [in them] the purpose of God according to election [will] stand, not of works but of Him who calls.*

Paraphrased:

For even though Jacob and Esau had not yet been born, or done anything good or bad, God called and elected them for His purpose.

NB: It's not you having to prove yourself good enough ... or clever enough ... but as it states, it's only '*of Him who calls [you]*'. (See also 2 Peter 1:10)

**YOUR CALL & ELECTION IS THE ISSUE HERE – THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE ALREADY BEEN CHOSEN BY GOD TO FULFILL HIS MAGNIFICENT PURPOSE,** to be like Christ in all His glory ... that you would be magnificent, shining in His glory ... beautifully holy with His holiness ... that in body, soul and spirit you become His mega-attractive bride whom He adores ...  
*You are so attractive in His glory, you make Jennifer Hawkins etc ... look ugly.*

**Romans 8:18** Berean Study Bible

*I consider that our present sufferings are not comparable to **the glory that will be revealed in us.***

**Philippians 3:21** ESV

*[Jesus] will ... transform our lowly body [bodies] to be like His glorious body.*

**Colossians 3:4**

*When Christ who is our life appears, then **you also will appear with Him in glory.***

### **PAUL IS SAYING, YOUR CHOOSING CAN NEVER BE CALLED INTO QUESTION**

**Romans 8:33** SLIDE (Paraphrased)

*Who could ever dare to bring any **accusation** against **the elect** of God? It's ludicrous!*

*PAUL KNOWS THAT QUERIES & FEELINGS WILL ARISE IN US & SO HE WRITES A STRONG ASSURANCE TO COUNTER THESE SATANIC & FLESHLY DOUBTS. HE KNOWS WE'LL HAVE QUESTIONS LIKE 'HOW CAN I BE CHOSEN FOR THIS? ... LOOK AT MY PAST ... LOOK AT MY FAILURE ... I DON'T HAVE ANY ABILITY OR TALENT ... I'M NOT INTELLIGENT.'*

*This week, I watched season 1 of Downton Abby. One scenario was about a young servant girl who wanted to leave servitude and become a secretary. She bought a typewriter and was studying by correspondence.*

*Besides her peers' disbelief in her trying to better herself, the last minute cancellation of an interview for a job made her self-esteem plummet.*

***Here, I noted that she became filled with SELF-DOUBT.** She said, 'I can't be anything other than a servant girl. Look at me! I'm the daughter of a farm labourer. I'll never amount to anything'.*

**HER FORMER HERITAGE OVERCAME HER FUTURE CALLING.**

*We were brought up to think our dreams almost never come to pass.*

**IT'S BECAUSE PAUL KNOWS THESE QUERIES & FEELINGS WILL ARISE IN US THAT HE WRITES THESE WORDS OF CERTAIN ASSURANCE.**

### **LEGALLY**

**PAUL COUNTERS THE THOUGHT THAT YOU ARE NOT WORTHY OF THE CALLING TO WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED by PRESENTING THIS WHOLE MATTER AS A LEGAL CASE.**

**Everything God does has a legal basis to it. HE CREATED LAW.**

**NB: The word 'accusation' or 'charge' is a legal word.**

**Romans 8:33** Berean Literal Bible SLIDE

Who will bring an **accusation** against the elect of God? God is the One justifying.

This word 'accusation' is found several times in the New Testament, always in the book of Acts (except for here) and **always used in a legal manner.**

Claudius writes to Felix about Paul stating -

**Acts 23:29** KJV

*[Paul] I perceived [is] to be **accused** of questions of their law ...*

Paul stands before king 'Herod Agrippa' and states -

**Acts 26:2**

*'I shall answer for myself this day, before you concerning all the things of which **I am accused** by the Jews'*

***SO PAUL SAYS IN OUR VERSE THAT THE BASIS OF YOUR CHOSING & CALLING IS NOT WHAT ANYONE SAYS ABOUT YOU OR HOW YOU EVEN FEEL ABOUT YOURSELF. BUT IT HAS BEEN SETTLED IN THE ETERNAL COURTS OF HEAVEN ... RATIFIED FOREVER ... AND IS IRREFUTABLE.***

#### LET'S LOOK AT THIS ETERNAL COURT CASE

We arrive in court just after all the witnesses have taken the stand and many accusations have been brought against this person. **SLIDE** Accusations have come out like, 'Blasphemer ... doubter ... selfish ... gluttonous ... pathetic ... looser ... sinner ... unclean ... unworthy ... incompetent ...' - **some true, some untrue.**

We see the man in the dock with his head hung down expecting the weight of the law.

*Are those accusations similar to how you feel?*

*Look at the rabble Jesus chose! Look at the rabble that followed David ...*

This calling is not based on our ability ... merit ... intelligence ... talent ...

**1 Corinthians 1:26-28**

*For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. <sup>27</sup> But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; <sup>28</sup> and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are.*

**SLIDE**

THE GOOD NEWS IS, THAT **GOD STEPS IN** & DECLARES, 'ALL THOSE SINS AND INADEQUACIES HAVE BEEN PAID FOR. THIS IS NOW NOT THAT FORMER MAN / WOMAN. THEY ARE MORE THAN WORTHY ...'

**GOD AS JUDGE NOW JUSTIFIES YOU!**

**YOU HAVE BEEN DECLARED AS RIGHTEOUS AS GOD HIMSELF!**

**HE JUSTIFIED YOU ... THE MOMENT YOU BELIEVED**

**Romans 3:26** KJV

*To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he [God] might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.*

**Romans 3:24**

*Being **justified** freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.*

**Romans 3:30** KJV

*Seeing it is one God, which **shall justify** the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision **through faith.***

**Romans 4:5** KJV

*But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him **that justifies the ungodly**, his faith is counted for righteousness.*

Paul scathingly states in Romans 8:33 (paraphrased) -

'Who can dare bring any charge against God's chosen when **God Himself is the one justifying?** It is ridiculous and impossible!'

When we formerly spoke on justification, we pointed out

**JUSTIFICATION IS THE BASIS OF GOD'S RELATIONSHIP WITH US & US WITH HIM.**

**Romans 5:1** KJV

*Therefore **being justified** by faith we [now] have peace with God ...*

Because you are declared right with God ... God is no longer against you but has 100% accepted you in the Son of His love. (See Colossians 1:13)

**BUT HERE WE SEE JUSTIFICATION IS ALSO OUR QUALIFICATION FOR BEING CALLED TO SUCH A MAGNIFICENT DESTINY.**

**WE ARE ELECT BECAUSE WE ARE CHOSEN, CALLED & JUSTIFIED.**

Because you were called to be glorified ... God justified you to make you worthy ...

Romans 8:30

*Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.*

NOW ... NO ONE CAN **LEGALLY** SAY A WORD AGAINST YOU ANYMORE.  
JUSTIFICATION MEANS NO ONE CAN ACCUSE YOU EVER AGAIN.

**SLIDE** NOW THE JUDGE SCATHINGLY ASKS ... 'NOW THAT I HAVE JUSTIFIED MY CHOSEN ONE ... IS THERE ANYONE ELSE THAT DARES TO ACCUSE HIM OF ANYTHING?'

PAUL SAYS, NO ONE CAN ACCUSE US OF BEING UNWORTHY OF SO GREAT A CALL BECAUSE GOD ALREADY CHOSE US & JUSTIFIED US DESPITE OUR FAILINGS.

- From the time you first believe, **GOD WILL NEVER SPEAK A WORD OF ACCUSATION AGAINST YOU EVER AGAIN.**

**AND IF GOD WILL NEVER EVER SAY AN ACCUSING WORD AGAINST YOU ... WHO ELSE WOULD DARE TO DO SO?**

- **ALSO GOD WILL NOT EVEN HEAR AN ACCUSING WORD AGAINST YOU.**

**SLIDE**

SO FAR IN THIS PROGRESSIVE CONCLUSION OF THE GOSPEL TEACHING ... we have seen ...

- THERE CAN BE **NO RESISTANCE** TO US MOVING FORWARD (Romans 8:31)
- THERE CAN BE **NO RESTRICTION** TO US RECEIVING 'ALL THINGS' GOD HAS FOR US (Romans 8:32)

And now we see ...

- THERE CAN BE **NO RECRIMINATION** ABOUT US NOT BEING WORTHY.

This illustrates the end of all argument regarding your acceptance, calling and favour with God.

**SLIDE** THE ARGUMENT IS, 'THERE IS NO ARGUMENT'.

**NOW WE MUST LOOK AT  
HOW 'THE ACCUSER OF THE BRETHREN' FITS IN**

Revelation 12:10-11 **SLIDE**

*Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, 'Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for **the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down**'.*

**HERE WE INSERT THE CROSS OF CHRIST**

*<sup>11</sup>'And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death'.*

## **THERE IS A HUGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VERSES 10 & 11**

In verse 10 we see the triumphant work of Christ.

In verse 11 we see the ongoing battle for faith the Elect have with Satan.

THE CASTING DOWN OF SATAN HAPPENED ALREADY AT THE CROSS as we saw last week.

Jesus defeated the powers of darkness on the cross.

**THIS ENDED SATAN'S REIGN OF ACCUSING US BEFORE GOD.**

**John 12:31** Berean Study Bible **SLIDE**

*Now judgment is upon this world; now the prince of this world will be cast out.*

**Colossians 2:15** Berean Study Bible

*... **Having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.***

We also saw in John 14:30 that Satan is now called '**the ruler of this world**'.

And the 'prince of the power of the atmosphere' in Ephesians 2:2 - This is his domain.

**SLIDE**

- **GEOGRAPHICALLY** SATAN NO LONGER HAS ANY ACCESS TO GOD AS HE DID IN JOB. HE HAS ALREADY BEEN CAST OUT OF GOD'S HEAVEN  
SATAN CAN NO LONGER ACCUSE ANY OF GOD'S PEOPLE **BEFORE GOD** AS HE IS NO LONGER BEFORE GOD.
- **LEGALLY** SATAN CANNOT ACCUSE ANY BORN AGAIN BELIEVER BEFORE GOD BECAUSE GOD HAS JUSTIFIED THEM.  
SINCE THE CROSS, GOD HAS DECLARED YOU JUSTIFIED ... DECLARED YOU RIGHTEOUS ...  
**YET SATAN STILL ACCUSES US & WE ENCOUNTER CONSTANT OPPOSITION BECAUSE**
- **PERSONALLY** SATAN CONTINUES TO ACCUSE US HERE ON THE EARTH ...  
SATAN IS NOW CALLED, 'THE PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR'.

**1 Timothy 6:12** **SLIDE**

*Fight the good **fight of faith**, lay hold on eternal life, to [into] which you **were [ALREADY] called** and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*

**THE ONGOING PERSONAL ATTACK OF SATAN**  
**IS NOT TO GET US TO SIN AS MUCH AS IT IS TO GET US TO NOT BELIEVE**

Satan accuses us continually, personally and it will never stop.

Satan accuses us directly himself and indirectly through people.

**INDIRECTLY THROUGH PEOPLE**

PEOPLE ASSESS US & ACCUSE US BASED UPON OUR PAST ACTIONS ... OUR FAILURES ...

*A certain man's wife told him I was writing a book ... he looked at me and said, 'YOU?'*

*In that one word an arrow pierced my soul, but I didn't take it to heart.*

We hear words like, he / she could never make it in the ministry ...

They couldn't even keep their marriage together ... His kids are rebels etc.

*A friend of mine went to see a visiting minister I knew. After the meeting, my friend said, 'Chris is getting back into the ministry.'*

*He said, 'Really? I thought he'd lost the plot ...'*

Indeed I had lost the religious plot ... that's when grace found me.

**DIRECT PERSONAL ATTACK ... THOUGHTS & WHISPERS**

*You're only one of God's lesser Christians ...*

*You're not a vessel of honour ... you're a vessel of dishonour ...*

*You'll never do anything great for God ...*

Some of these accusations might be true ... but that is not the issue.

You have been legally justified and God no longer considers you in these terms.

**DIRECT PERSONAL ATTACK ... FEELINGS**

**WHAT DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOU?**

*My Dog Daisy gets scared and cowers when I react to a negative scene on TV.*

*I can say very slightly 'Agghh!' and she looks at me like I'm accusing her.*

*I realise ... when she was a puppy she was scolded and put down in anger ...*

So beyond the logic of the scenario ... we have the emotion of the past arise.

*She feels like she has done wrong ... regardless of any scenario ...*

SO IT IS ALSO WITH HUMAN BEINGS ...

THINGS TRIGGER NEGATIVE EMOTIONS ... subtle things and we feel accusation.

These thoughts and emotional feelings will always be there lurking in the background, but as we learn to believe more and more that we are LEGALLY cleared and declared worthy ... they will become more distant and subject to the legal authority that says we are justified.

Now this fact that God has declared us legally justified, will become the basis from which we live ... no more from our accusing thoughts or feelings.

It is a new way of seeing ourselves ... but it is who we now are In Christ.

Here we will be able to answer these accusing thoughts and feelings with ...

**Romans 8:33** Paraphrased

*Who dares to bring any **accusation** against me as **God's elect** seeing God Himself has declared me legally worthy and justified? It's ludicrous!*

*Many years ago I heard an anecdote regarding 'Martin Luther' from the Reformation. It said, One evening Martin Luther was awakened by the devil who began to write with chalk on the wall all Martin Luther's sins from his youth up. He wrote things like, 'Anger' 'Swearing' 'Jealously' etc. On and on the devil went ... some true ... some not true. When Satan had finished, he looked at Luther as if to say, 'See you are a no good sinner. How can you call yourself chosen of God'*

*Well, Luther said, 'Have you finished? Is that all you have? I'm sure I could also find a few more sins you didn't mention.'*

*With that Luther got up, took the chalk from the devil and wrote across the whole list, 'Cleansed of all unrighteousness ... 100% Justified by Faith'.*

*Whether it's true or not is not the point as it illustrates a great truth for which he stood.*

**He didn't try to confirm or deny his sin or to justify himself because he would have failed and come under condemnation.**

**To Be Continued ...**