

Reformation  
& Revival



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Justification by faith is the hinge on which all true religion turns.

**John Calvin**

The scriptural doctrine of justification by faith alone, without any manner of goodness or excellency of ours, does in no wise diminish either the necessity or benefit of a sincere evangelical obedience.

**Jonathan Edwards**

## Annotated Bibliography

Barth, Markus. *Justification*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971. This little out-of-print exegetical work is of modest value.

Berkouwer, G. C. *Faith and Justification*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1954. Berkouwer's works are highly recommended, especially those which were written earlier before some of his alterations on the authority of Scripture. Readable theology which is extremely profitable on this subject.

Berkouwer, G. C. David H. Freeman, translator. *The Conflict with Rome*. Philadelphia: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1958. One of his best. A helpful work regarding justification.

Boehl, Edward. *The Reformed Doctrine of Justification*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1946. Boehl, a German Lutheran scholar born in 1836, gave the church a wonderful treasure in this out-of-print volume. Find a copy if possible.

Braaten, Carl E. *Justification: The Article by Which the Church Stands or Falls*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1990. Braaten assesses Luther's view of justification and its subsequent interpretations by Calvin, Ritschl, Harnack, Tillich and Barth. He also critiques the modern ecumenical discussions regarding this doctrine.

\*Buchanan, James. *The Doctrine of Justification*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1977. This classic was first published in 1867. It is still the best orthodox treatment on the subject available for serious pastors and lay readers. Read it, study it, teach it!

\*Calvin, John. J. T. McNeill, editor, and Ford Lewis Battles, translator. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1960. Calvin's chapters on justification are about as good as it gets. Read them and then read them again.

*Canons and Decrees of the Council of Trent: Original Text with English Translation.* H. J. Schroeder, translator. London: Herder, 1941.

\*Carson, D. A., editor. *Right With God: Justification in the Bible and the World.* Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992. This volume of essays was produced through the Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Fellowship. It is one of the best modern scholarly treatments of the important issues.

Chemnitz, Martin (J. A. O. Preus, translator.) *Justification: The Chief Article of Christian Doctrine as Expounded in Loci Theologici.* St. Louis: Concordia, 1985. Chemnitz lectured on Melancthon's *Loci communes* regularly, and provides in this vital work one of the finest Reformation defenses of "the chief article."

Dantine, Wilhelm. *Justification of the Ungodly.* St. Louis: Concordia, 1968. Professor Dantine, who taught at the University of Vienna, wrote this restudy of justification in an era when ecumenical relationships began to address this subject.

Forde, Gerhard O. *Justification by Faith—A Matter of Death and Life.* Philadelphia: Fortress, 1982. Forde, Professor of Systematic Theology at Luther-Northwestern Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, is a refreshing writer and thinker who helps the reader focus on the important concerns related to the subject.

\*Hart, Joseph. *A Discourse Upon Justification.* Harrisonburg, Virginia: Sprinkle Publications, 1997 reprint (1743 edition). Joseph Hart was a Particular Baptist minister in the eighteenth century who gave us a useful work worthy of this recent reprint edition. The Sprinkle volume, which also

includes the Mackenzie work mentioned below, is titled *The Justified Believer.*

Heinz, Johann. *Justification and Merit: Luther vs. Catholicism.* Berrien Springs, Michigan: Andrews University Press, 1981. Along with McGrath (below) this is an important historical work.

\*Horn, Robert M. *Go Free! The Meaning of Justification.* Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity, 1976. Robert Horn, an English writer, has written the best small volume I have read on the subject of justification.

Kistler, Don, editor. *Justification by Faith ALONE.* Morgan, Pennsylvania: Soli Deo Gloria, 1995. Essays by MacArthur, Sproul, Beeke, Gerstner and Armstrong provide a helpful contemporary work.

Kung, Hans. *Justification: The Doctrine of Karl Barth and a Catholic Reflection.* New York: Thomas Nelson & Sons, 1964. This blockbuster caused quite a stir because of Kung's considerable agreement with much of Protestant theology, but he still does not properly understand grace.

Luther, Martin. Jaroslav Pelikan, editor. *Luther's Works*, 56 volumes. St. Louis: Concordia. One does not need the whole set, but consulting Galatians, Romans and some of the theological writings is very important.

Luther, Martin. Ewald M. Plass, editor. *What Luther Says: Anthology.* St. Louis: Concordia, 1959. The most valuable Luther resource for the average reader.

Mackenzie, W. B. *The Justified Believer: His Security, Conflicts and Triumphs.* Harrisonburg, Virginia, 1997 reprint (1848 edi-

tion). This helpful work is reprinted along with the Joseph Hart volume mentioned above.

McGrath, Alister E. *Iustitia Dei: A History of the Christian Doctrine of Justification—The Beginnings to the Reformation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986. This scholarly and important work charts the development of the doctrine of justification until the time of the Protestant Reformation.

McGrath, Alister E. *Iustitia Dei: A History of the Christian Doctrine of Justification from 1500 to the Present Day*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986. This companion to the first volume concludes McGrath's seminal study of the history of justification in Christian doctrine. Scholars will rely heavily on this work for years to come.

McGrath, Alister E. *Justification By Faith: What It Means to Us Today*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1988. McGrath provides a helpful "popular" companion to his scholarly works listed above.

\*Murray, John. *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1955. This is the finest popular, but serious, Reformed treatment of grace in salvation that has been written in the past forty years or so. The chapter on justification is extremely useful.

Newman, John H. *Lectures on Justification*. New York: Longmans, Green & Company, 1990. Newman was an able defender of the Roman Catholic position and demonstrates the manner in which Catholic apologists argue against Protestant teaching.

Pink, A. W. *The Doctrines of Election and Justification*. Grand

Rapids: Baker, 1974. Pink is a helpful popular writer but at times is too wordy and a bit confusing.

Sheridan, Thomas L. *Newman on Justification*. Staten Island, New York: Alba House, 1967. This Roman Catholic treatment of Cardinal Newman's views will show why both Newman and modern Catholicism reject *sola fide* down to the present time.

\*Sproul, R. C. *Faith Alone: The Evangelical Doctrine of Justification*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1995. This "Gold Medallion Winner" for 1996 is an excellent treatment of the issues that confront evangelicals in the 1990s.

Toon, Peter. *Justification and Sanctification*. Westchester, Illinois: Crossway, 1983. Clearly explains the doctrines surveyed in a helpful but non-pedantic manner.

Turretin, Francis. George Musgrave Giger, translator, and James T. Dennison, editor. *Institutes of Elenctic Theology*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1992-97. 3 Volumes. Turretin is the greatest post-Reformation theologian in the Reformed tradition, and these volumes are worth their weight in proverbial gold.

Westcott, Frederick Brooke. *The Biblical Doctrine of Justification*. London: MacMillan & Company, 1913. Westcott, a highly esteemed Greek scholar, offers some significant studies of key concepts and words in the New Testament.

\*Highly Recommended

**Editor**

Dr. Joel R. Beeke has compiled an extensive 40-page annotated bibliography relating to the subject of justification. For a

## Annotated Bibliography

copy send \$5 (U.S.) to Reformation Heritage Books, 2919 Leonard NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49505. This extremely valuable resource can be useful to any who want to do serious research on the subject of justification.

John Calvin was born at Noyon in Picardy on July 10, 1509. He was the second son of Gérard Cauvin, who was secretary to the bishop of Noyon and fiscal procurator for the province. The family name was spelled several ways, but John showed preference while still a young man for "Calvin." For a thorough treatment of Calvin's teachings see John T. McNeill, *The History and Character of Calvinism* (1954). There are many studies of the Reformation.