

# God's Remedy for Flunking

**T**he Westminster Shorter Catechism asks: "What is Justification?" Answer: "Justification is an 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 to us, and received by faith." Justification is far better than mere forgiveness -- the cancellation of our sins. It also pledges the crediting of Christ's obedience to our account -- the imputation of Christ's righteousness.

A PhD student sits before a computer terminal to take his final exam for his degree. It's pass or fail, no second chances. His professor enters the room, hands the ten question exam to the student and tells him he has 5 hours to type out his answers. Furiously, the student keys in page after page of mathematical formulas, logical deductions, and final conclusions. Nearly 100 pages later, the professor re-enters the room, and before the student's eyes, begins the correction process. Tragically, the professor discovers every answer is riddled with errors. Not a single answer is even remotely correct. The student has miserably failed and begins to weep.

Moved with pity, the professor deletes all the pages of the student's answers. All of his miserable mistakes are vaporized into cyberspace, never to be seen again or counted against him. Then, the professor removes from his suit jacket a CD, inserts it into the computer, and brings up 100 pages of perfectly written examination, penned by his own brilliant mind. He then copies these pages and pastes them into his student's examination document. The student passes the examination, acquires his PhD, and graduates summa cum laude (with highest praise).

As a hell deserving sinner who's miserably broken God's 10 commandments, you're urged to believe in Christ to be saved. If you will believe, all of your sins (past, present and future -- even if you'd live to be a hundred), will be forgiven in that instant. In that same moment, the perfect life of Christ will be credited to your account, so that on judgment day, you will be welcomed into the courts of heaven summa cum laude (with highest praise).

"But the tax-gatherer, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, God be merciful to me, the sinner! I tell you, this man went down to his house justified." (Luke 18:13-14).