

How Can We Be Justified before God?

Context

In Paul's day, some Jewish Christians taught that for gentile Christians to be acceptable before the Lord, they had to obey the law of Moses, including the law of circumcision (see Bible Dictionary, "Circumcision"). Paul warned that this teaching was a distortion of the gospel of Jesus Christ (see Galatians 1:7).

Important Definitions

The phrase "**works of the law**" (Galatians 2:16) refers to the law of Moses.

Justification is being "pardoned from punishment for sin and declared guiltless" (Guide to the Scriptures, "Justification, Justify," Gospel Library).

Passages

Study Galatians 2:16–20; 3:10–14. Identify what makes it possible for us to be justified before God. (For further insights, you could read Romans 5:1–2, 9 and 2 Nephi 2:5–7). Record the truths you learn about justification.

Apply

Using what you learned about Jesus Christ, write a short response that could help John with his concerns.

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