

# **The Sufficiency of God's Grace – Part 2**

2 Corinthians 3: 4-5

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Our salvation experience is entirely  
the work of God: past, present, and  
future

Eph. 2:8-9 For by grace **you have been saved** through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Perfect Passive - Completed action in the past, the effects of which are still in place today.

1 Cor. 1:18 For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but **to us who are being saved** it is the power of God.

Present Continuous /Passive – Happening now – we are being saved by God.

Heb. 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of **those who will inherit salvation**?

Infinite – Referring to an event that has not happened yet.

God has **saved** us, He is **saving** us,  
and He will continue to **save** us.

A review of justification – God declaring us  
innocent

Romans 3:24 They are **justified freely by His grace** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Romans 3:28 For we conclude that a man is **justified by faith apart from works of the law.**

Romans 3:30 since there is one God who **will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.**

Romans 5:1 Therefore, since **we have been declared righteous by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Titus 3:7 so that having been **justified by His grace**, we may become heirs with the hope of eternal life.

Gal. 2:16 yet we know that **no one is justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ.**

We do not do anything to cause our salvation.

Rom. 8:33 Who will bring a charge against God's elect? **God is the one who justifies;**

2 Cor. 5:17-19 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature, the old things passed away, behold, new things have come. Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

Sometimes what God's word says is different from what we think it says.

Justified by works - What?!

James 2:24 You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone.

# God's Perspective vs. Man's

1 Samuel 16:7 People look at appearances, but God looks at the heart.

Isaiah 64:6

James 2:24 (again) **You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone.**

Horao – “To see with the eyes.”  
physically see/eyes of man

# Justification in the eyes of man

We do not do anything to complete our salvation.

Gal. 3:2-3 I only want to learn this from you: Did you receive the Spirit **by the works of the law or by hearing with faith?** Are you so foolish? **After beginning with the Spirit, are you now going to be made complete by the flesh?**

# Is Baptism Necessary for Justification?

View unclear Scriptures in light of clear Scriptures.

Acts 2:38 Peter said to them, “**Repent, and each of you be baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ **for the forgiveness of your sins**, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 3:19 Therefore **repent and return,** so that **your sins may be wiped away,** in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.

Acts 5:31 He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and Savior, **to grant repentance to Israel,** and **forgiveness of sins.**

Acts 10:43 Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name **everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins.**

Acts 2:38 – Peter said to them, “**Repent, and each of you be baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ **for the forgiveness of your sins**, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The grammar plus other clear passages might help us to understand this verse better this way:

**Repent for the forgiveness of your sins**  
and be baptized in the name of Jesus  
Christ – 2 separate thoughts in one  
sentence

We do not do anything to continue our salvation.

Perfect tense in Eph. 2:8-9 – “...it is by **grace you have been saved...**” performed by God in the past and maintained by God up to the present.

**All we do is trust in the completed work of Jesus Christ.**

2 Cor. 3:4-5 Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God.

**If what Jesus did was sufficient for our justification in God's sight, then it needs to be sufficient in ours as well.**