

Sunday School: July 7, 2024

The Baptist Catechism

Question 37: 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 alone. (**Rom. 3:24; Eph. 1:7; 2 Cor. 5:21; Rom. 5:19; Phil. 3:9; Gal. 2:16**)

Today's Text:

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not of works, so that no one may boast. (**Ephesians 2:8** LSB)

We Believe:

1. God has ended the will of man with that natural liberty and power of acting upon choice, that it is neither forced, nor by any necessity of nature determined to do good or evil. (**Matthew 17:12; James 1:14; Deuteronomy 30:19**) ~1689 LBCF 9:1

2. Man, in his state of innocency, had freedom and power to will and to do that which was good and well-pleasing to God, but yet was unstable, so that he might fall from it. (**Ecclesiastes 7:29, Genesis 3:6**) ~1689 LBCF 9:2

3. Man, by his fall into a state of sin, has wholly lost all ability of will to any spiritual good accompanying salvation; so as a natural man, being altogether averse from that good, and dead in sin, is not able by his own strength to convert himself, or to prepare himself thereunto. (**Romans 5:6, 8:7, Ephesians 2:1, 5, Titus 3:3-5; John 6:44**) ~1689 LBCF 9:3