

Billy Graham



JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

Transcribed and Published by LivingSermons.com

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Preacher: Billy Graham

Publisher: Livingsermons.com

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First Edition — 2026

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For Kingdom impact worldwide.



Foreword

Among the many truths that form the foundation of the Christian faith, few are as vital, liberating, and transformative as the doctrine of justification by faith. It is the glorious declaration that sinful men and women can stand righteous before a holy God—not because of their own goodness, religious performance, or personal merit, but solely through faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

In this powerful message, Billy Graham presents this timeless biblical truth with the clarity, conviction, and simplicity that characterised his ministry throughout the world. With a pastor's heart and an evangelist's urgency, he directs the reader away from self-righteousness and toward the sufficiency of Christ's atoning sacrifice.

The doctrine of justification has been at the heart of biblical Christianity from the days of the apostles. It answers one of humanity's greatest questions: How can a guilty sinner be accepted by a holy God? Through the pages that follow, readers will discover that God's answer has always been the same—salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

One of the remarkable strengths of this message is its ability to make profound theological truth accessible to every believer. Rather than presenting justification as a distant doctrinal concept, Billy Graham illustrates it as a personal reality that affects every Christian's standing before God. He reminds us that the believer's confidence rests not in human achievement, but in the righteousness of Christ imputed to all who trust in Him.

At a time when many seek acceptance through works, morality, religion, or self-improvement, this message calls us back to the heart of the gospel. It points us to the cross, where Christ paid the full penalty for sin, and to the empty tomb, where His resurrection secured our eternal hope.

As you read this book, may the Holy Spirit deepen your understanding of God's grace and strengthen your assurance in the salvation that has been freely provided through Jesus Christ. Whether you are encountering these truths for the first time or revisiting them as a long-time believer, this message will direct your heart toward the glorious reality that those who are justified by faith have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is our prayer that this publication will encourage, instruct, and draw many readers into a deeper appreciation of the gospel of grace.

— Wisdom Epsi
Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

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Publisher's Note

This book is a faithful transcript of a live sermon delivered by the preacher under the inspiration and unction of the Holy Spirit. Every effort has been made to preserve the preacher's exact words, tone, flow, and spiritual authority, while carefully proofreading and formatting the message into a clear and readable ebook format.

The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

Livingsermons.com does not claim ownership of this message. All spiritual credit and ministerial authority belong to the preacher through whom the Word was delivered. Our role is that of stewards and editors—serving the Body of Christ by preserving and distributing life-giving messages in accessible digital formats.

Our commitment is excellence without dilution.

Our standard is reverence for the Word of God.

Our daily goal is to transform powerful live sermons into polished PDF and ebook editions for the edification of the Body of Christ.

It is our prayer that as you read, the same grace, conviction, clarity, and impartation present in the live service will minister to you afresh.

— *Livingsermons.com*

A Spirit-led Publishing Stewardship

Main Message

Begins Here



Justification by Faith

We have been saved by grace through faith.

The Apostle Paul emphatically states:

“Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.”

— Galatians 2:16 (KJV)

Justification is a legal standing with God based upon Christ's death and resurrection and our faith in Him.

The word Paul uses, *dikaioo*, comes from the Roman legal courts and means “to declare righteous” or “to pronounce righteous.” Therefore, justification is the legal and formal

acquittal from guilt by God, who is Judge. It is the pronouncement of the sinner as righteous because he believes on the Lord Jesus Christ.

A Picture of Justification

Let us suppose for a moment that I died tonight and stood before the Lord God, who is the Supreme Judge of the universe.

No doubt He would ask me:

"Wil Pounds, why should I let you into My heaven? You are a guilty sinner. How do you plead?"

My response would be:

"I plead guilty, Your Honor."

My Advocate, Jesus Christ, who is standing there beside me, speaks on my behalf.

He says:

"Your Honor, it is true that Wil Pounds is a grievous sinner. He is guilty. However, Father, I died for him on the cross and rose from the dead. Wil Pounds has put his faith and trust in Me and in all that I have done for him on the cross. He is a believer. I died for him, and he has accepted Me as his substitute."

The Lord God then turns to me and says:

"Is that true?"

I respond:

"Yes, Sir. That is the truth. I am claiming the shed blood of Jesus Christ to cleanse me from all my sins. I have put my faith in Jesus to save me for all eternity. This is what You have promised in Your Word."

Jesus said:

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

— John 3:16 (KJV)

And this promise includes me.

Then the Lord God responds:

"Acquitted! By order of this court, I demand that you be set free. The price has been paid by My Son."

Furthermore, I get to go home and live with the Judge.

Declared Righteous Before God

Justification means that at the very moment of salvation, God sovereignly declares the believing sinner righteous in His sight.

The believing sinner is declared righteous in his standing before God. From that moment onward—through life and through death—that person who has believed is now and forever right before God.

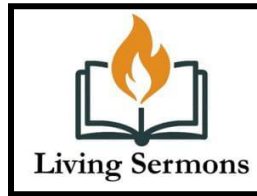
God accepts him, and he stands acquitted of his sins.

The basis of that acceptance is not human merit, religious effort, or obedience to the Law. It is faith in Jesus Christ and His finished work on the cross.

As Paul declares:

“Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.”

— Galatians 2:16 (KJV)



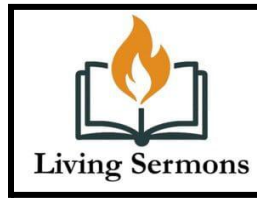
About the Speaker

Billy Graham (1918–2018) was one of the most influential Christian evangelists of the twentieth century. Over the course of a ministry spanning more than seventy years, he faithfully proclaimed the Gospel of Jesus Christ to audiences around the world, preaching in person to nearly 215 million people across more than 185 countries and territories.

As the founder of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, he led numerous evangelistic crusades, conferences, radio broadcasts, television programmes, and publishing initiatives that helped bring the message of salvation to millions. His ministry was marked by a steadfast commitment to biblical truth, personal integrity, and the call to lead men and women into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Billy Graham also served as a trusted spiritual counsellor to multiple Presidents of the United States, offering biblical wisdom and pastoral guidance while maintaining his primary calling as an evangelist of the Gospel.

His messages continue to inspire believers worldwide, pointing people to the hope, forgiveness, and eternal life found in Christ alone. Through his preaching, writings, and global ministry influence, Billy Graham remains one of the most recognised and respected voices in modern Christian history.



About Living Sermons

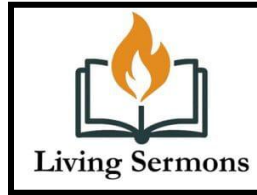
Living Sermons is a Spirit-led publishing platform dedicated to transforming timeless messages of God’s servants into books that can reach and impact lives across the world.

Our mission is simple: to preserve the wisdom, revelation, and anointing carried in the preached Word and make it accessible in formats that can be studied, shared, and revisited for generations. By turning sermons into high-quality Christian books and eBooks, we extend the life and influence of each message far beyond the pulpit.

At Living Sermons, we believe that the preached Word is living and powerful (Hebrews 4:12). Every sermon carries truth that can instruct, comfort, rebuke, inspire, and transform. Our role is to faithfully capture these words, polish them for clarity and readability, and present them in a way that maintains the preacher’s unique voice and anointing.

Through our work, messages that might otherwise be heard once are preserved as lasting resources for teaching, devotion, discipleship, and evangelism. These books are designed not just for reading but for equipping believers, strengthening families, and advancing the Kingdom of God.

Living Sermons—*the preached Word in lasting form.*



Join Our Team

At **Livingsermons.com**, our mission is to ensure that sermons inspired by the Holy Spirit are accessible in written form for study, meditation, and reference by believers around the world. This work is growing, and we can't do it alone.

We are inviting passionate believers to volunteer in any of these roles:

- **Transcribers** – Convert sermon recordings into accurate transcripts.
- **Editors** – Refine transcripts into polished, readable eBooks.
- **Bloggers** – Create SEO-friendly posts to share new books.
- **Social Media Managers** – Share books online and engage our community.
- **Language Translators**
- **Graphics Designers**

If you feel led to serve in any of these roles, please reach out through our [Volunteer Page](#) on Livingsermons.com. Together, let's spread the knowledge of Christ to the nations.