

Post Tenebras Lux- Justification by faith.

Review: Repentance is a “*component*” of true faith that saves us. GTV

The fallacy of indulgences.

- Indulgences
 - Defined- were the opportunity to pay money to move a soul stuck in purgatory to heaven. Additionally, it became a means by which one could purchase letters of indulgence to cover past and future sins. In other words, can offer these letter to justify one’s self before God.
 - Described- *“As soon as the coin in the coffer rings, the soul from purgatory springs.”* Theses #27
- Luther says the result of one’s own eternal destiny is in the hands of God alone not in the merits of a purchased indulgence or by the intercession or act of a priest. Theses #28
- One who believes that indulgence letters has saved them has actually condemned themselves and those who teach such ideas. Theses #32

Justification by faith alone.

- All of us are sinners. **Romans 3:23**
- Our sin earns us death and separation from God eternally. **Romans 6:23**
- Christ died for us sinners with no merits of our own to offer. **Romans 5:8**
- Sinners cannot earn saving merit with God, but by faith alone in the work of Christ. **Ephesians 2:8-9**
- By God’s grace we are justified and made righteous in his eyes. **Romans 4:5**
 - This righteousness is not to be understood as changing them internally and making them morally perfect, for then it would then be dependent upon the works of their own. Grudem
 - This righteousness is imputed upon them. In other words, faith in Christ’s work makes the ungodly righteous in his sight. Grudem

“That is why faith alone makes someone just and fulfills the law.” Luther

"This one and firm rock, which we call the doctrine of justification is the chief article of the whole Christian doctrine, which comprehends the understanding of all godliness."
Luther

Ramifications of "justification by faith alone."

- Christ's work on the cross is sufficient. **2 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 10:10**
- Righteous works are but filthy rags in their capacity to justify myself before God. **Isaiah 64:6**
- I am justified and made righteous by faith in Christ alone. **Galatians 2:16**
- I am righteous in the eyes of God because of Christ's work alone. **Romans 10:4**

"The first and chief article is this: Jesus Christ, our God and Lord, died for our sins and was raised again for our justification (Romans 3:24-25). He alone is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29), and God has laid on Him the iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:6). All have sinned and are justified freely, without their own works and merits, by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, in His blood (Romans 3:23-25). This is necessary to believe. This cannot be otherwise acquired or grasped by any work, law, or merit. Therefore, it is clear and certain that this faith alone justifies us..." Smalcald Articles by Luther