

## THE ONE WHO JUSTIFIES SINNERS.

To **justify** is to put it right in such a way so that it is just as if it never happen.

Both faiths differ on how this can happen but lets first look at God being just.

All the way through the bible Justice and being just, go hand in hand.

**God is just.** What does this mean? It means Gods decision is final and perfect and absolutely correct. He is impartial. He is unbiased. He takes into account everything that we have done and believed in and He acts upon it now or in the future. He judges us for how we are and what we are! He does not leave a stone uncovered. In the end he will see that justice is done, therefore there will be a judgement day.

We all agree on this. But for Muslims and Christians it is the outcome of this that differs. What will be the result of God's Judgement? Lets first see from the Quran says and then look at our own faith.

### Islam: -

**Sura 99:** - "When the earth is shaken to its utmost convulsion, and the earth throws up its burdens, and man cries out in distress 'what is the matter with it? On that day will men proceed in companies sorted out, to be shown the deeds that they had done. Then shall anyone who has done an atom's weight of good see it and anyone who has done an atom's worth of evil shall see it."

**Sura 4:57** "But to those who believe **and** do deeds of righteousness, 'We shall admit to Gardens, with rivers flowing beneath, their eternal home'". **Vs 58** "And when you judge between man and man, see to it, that you judge with justice...for Allah is He who hears and sees all things".

**Sura 5:8-10** " Be just that is next to piety: and fear Allah. For Allah is well acquainted with all that you do. To those who believe **and** do deeds of righteousness hath Allah promised forgiveness and a great reward. Those who reject and deny our signs will be companions of Hell-fire."

### Our faith: -

We also believe in a just God and in the last days. There will be a judgement day and hell for those who do not believe! But doing good deeds is not a condition of going to heaven it is by faith that we are saved. God is just, truthful and He provides the way for us to be purified and made whole, by justifying us (putting us right before God) through Jesus Christ, by providing an acceptable sacrifice. A scapegoat for us. It is amazing.

### What does the Bible say about the last days?

**Rev 20:12** " I saw the dead, great and small, stand before the throne, and the books were opened. Another book was opened which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books".

It implies here that we have to do something to get into heaven.

What to we have to do? All we have to do is to believe and stand firm.

**Vs 15** " If anyone's name was not in the book of life they were thrown into the lake of fire."

**Mat 24:3:** -The disciples ask, " What will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" **Vs 7-14** "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places.... You will be persecuted and handed over to be put to death... all nations will hate you.... Stand firm to the end and you will be saved. And the gospel will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to the nations and then the end will come."

### How do we get into the book of life?

Only by being **justified** can we get into the book of life.

**Rom 10:9-10** "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your Heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are **justified** and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

### What did Jesus promise his disciples?

**John 14:2-4** " In my fathers house are many rooms; if it were not so I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you. I will come back and take you to be with me."

**1 John 5-13** “ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.”

My Muslim friends have asked: -

*Is this justice for us? Shouldn't we also be punished for our sins? Would not that be justice? How dare we say that we have eternal life? Are we any better than others? Is God just that he should let us get away scot-free?*

Well we are no better in ourselves as we know and the bible confirms this: -

**Rom 3:9-11** “We already made the charge that Jews and gentiles alike are under sin. As it is written there is no-one righteous not even one: All have turned away.”

It is the whole issue of faith that makes the difference here between us all.

### **In Islam: -**

There is a judgement day and a hope but not a certainty of being justified and entering eternal life. We studied this before. They believe that if the good outweighs the bad then there is a possibility of heaven.

### **In our faith: -**

*Can we think of people in the bible whom are Muslim friends would know about to help them understand this idea?*

**Rom 4:1** Abraham was justified by faith. “If in fact Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about-but not before God. What does scripture say? Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness” (**Gen 15:6 & 22**).

David said the same thing.

**Psalms 32:1-2** “ Blessed are they whose sins are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him.”

Abraham and David believed in the one that was to come, and believed in The One and only God who guided them.

(**Rom 4:17**) Abraham was made the father of many nations. And David was a great king and an incredible man of faith but by no means perfect. His sins were quite public and are well known yet God blessed him because he repented.

All of the prophets looked to God and to the future when Jesus would come.

They knew that righteousness alone is like filthy rags. (**Isa 64:6**) it needs faith.

**Isa 7:14 & Mat 2:6** “out of Judah will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of Israel”.

While they were alive on earth none of them met Jesus.

Moses Deut 34:5-7 was buried in Moab aged 120. **Vs 10-12** are his obituary: - “The Lord knew him face to face, he did miraculous signs and wonders. The Lord sent him to Egypt- to Pharaoh and all his officials no one had ever shown the mighty power and awesome deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.”

Elijah 2 Kings 11-12 “went straight to heaven in a whirlwind.” He was not a perfect man he hid from God at least once but his faith kept him on the right track.

**Mat 17:3** Jesus met Moses and Elijah while he was on the mountain. While the disciples Peter, James and John looked on.

**John 10.** Jesus said he was the shepherd

All these men hoped that their righteousness would help them make the grade. They were blessed and had faith. They knew that God was the only one who could provide a way for them to be justified. They looked towards the time when he would provide a permanent way. Until then they needed to sacrifice animals.

**Rom. 3:23-24** “For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that comes through Christ Jesus.

Jesus the perfect sinless man provided the only acceptable way.

It is God who justifies, by providing Jesus. God justifies us. That is by believing in Jesus, He put it right as if it never happened.

Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus who dies- more than that, who is raised to life –is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. **Lets read Roman 8 28-39.**