

How good does one have to be to get to heaven

Intro. ? Idea of God as judge Gen 18:25 do right; 2 Tim 4:8; Heb 12:23; Jas 5:9. I. Meaning of justification. Scene. Courtroom, judge, trial, verdict rendered then announced. Deut. 25:1; 1 Kg 8:32.

II. Problem in jusriion Job 9:2 How can a man be just before God. How can God remain rteous and justify sinful people? Want just reasonably good people or perfect in heaven? Sin-Rom 3:9-10, 23. God's choices: condemn, compromise, change.

III. Procecedure in Just. Give us rtness so can announce we are.

1. Plan. Apart from legal complications, 3:20-21. Thru X, Acts 13:39 Isa 53:11 The rteous one, my servant, will justify many.

Legal and jus bec rtness of God, not man, 22.

2. Prerequisite, 22. Thru, not bec, faith in JC. Freely, without a cause, Jn 15:25. By His grace, unmerited.

3. Price, 23-24. apolutrosis. Release from. Thru satisfying the wrath of God thru blood (death) 1 Jn 2:2. Whole world and those before X died.

4. Position before God is a rteous person. 5:17, 1 Cor 5:17.

5. Prouncement, =justfation. Being in X brings us up to His standard. Provision of Savior, channel of faith, gift of rtness, verdict of just announced. Corneal transplant.

IV. Doesn't James contradict? 2:14,17 non-working faith cannot save bec it's dead, non-active faith. Courtroom is earth. Judges are people (cannot see into heart as God can, but can see works). Two coupon ticket to heaven. Good for passage (faith), not good if (works) detached.

V. Ramifications of just. 1. Peace (with God), 5:1. 2. 6:7 from power (slaves to,v6) sin. 3. Secure, 8:30, 33 Elect ones (pl)..Charge self, others do, Satan does, but fact of just can never be taken to a higher court, bec Supreme Ct. has decided.

Luther: in preface to NT. Diff degrees of doctrinal value. John, 1 Jn, Rom, Gal, Eph, Peter. teach everything we need to know if never saw any other book of doct. "Therefore, St. James' ep is a perfect straw-epistle compared with them."