

## The Westminster Catechisms on Justification and Sanctification

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q. 33. What is justification?

A. Justification is an act of God's free grace,<sup>[1]</sup> wherein he pardoneth all our sins,<sup>[2]</sup> and accepteth us as righteous in his sight,<sup>[3]</sup> only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us,<sup>[4]</sup> and received by faith alone.<sup>[5]</sup>

<sup>[1]</sup> Rom. 3:24

<sup>[2]</sup> Rom. 4:6-8; II Cor. 5:19

<sup>[3]</sup> II Cor. 5:21

<sup>[4]</sup> Rom. 4:6, 11; 5:19

<sup>[5]</sup> Gal. 2:16; Phil. 3:9

Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. 70: What is justification?

A. 70: Justification is an act of God's free grace unto sinners,<sup>[1]</sup> in which he pardoneth all their sins, accepteth and accounteth their persons righteous in his sight;<sup>[2]</sup> not for any thing wrought in them, or done by them,<sup>[3]</sup> but only for the perfect obedience and full satisfaction of Christ, by God imputed to them,<sup>[4]</sup> and received by faith alone.<sup>[5]</sup>

<sup>[1]</sup> Rom. 3:22, 24-25; 4:5

<sup>[2]</sup> II Cor. 5:19, 21; Rom. 3:22-25, 27-28

<sup>[3]</sup> Titus 3:5, 7; Eph. 1:7

<sup>[4]</sup> Rom. 4:6-8; 5:17-19

<sup>[5]</sup> Acts 10:43; Gal. 2:16; Phil. 3:9

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q. 35. What is sanctification?

A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace,<sup>[1]</sup> whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God,<sup>[2]</sup> and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.<sup>[3]</sup>

<sup>[1]</sup> Eze. 36:27; Phil. 2:13; II Thess. 2:13

<sup>[2]</sup> II Cor. 5:17; Eph. 4:23-24; I Thess. 5:23

<sup>[3]</sup> Eze. 36:25-27; Rom. 6:4, 6, 12-14; II Cor. 7:1; I Pet. 2:24

Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. 75: What is sanctification?

A. 75: Sanctification is a work of God's grace, whereby they whom God hath, before the foundation of the world, chosen to be holy, are in time, through the powerful operation of his Spirit <sup>[1]</sup> applying the death and resurrection of Christ unto them,<sup>[2]</sup> renewed in their whole man after the image of God;<sup>[3]</sup> having the seeds of repentance unto life, and all other saving graces, put into their hearts,<sup>[4]</sup> and those graces so stirred up, increased, and strengthened,<sup>[5]</sup> as that they more and more die unto sin, and rise unto newness of life.<sup>[6]</sup>

<sup>[1]</sup> Eph. 1:4; I Cor. 6:11; II Thess. 2:13

<sup>[2]</sup> Rom. 6:4-6

<sup>[3]</sup> Eph. 4:23-24

<sup>[4]</sup> Acts 11:18; I John 3:9

<sup>[5]</sup> Jude 20; Heb. 6:11-12; Eph. 3:16-19; Col. 1:10-11

<sup>[6]</sup> Rom. 6:4, 14; Gal. 5:24

Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. 77: Wherein do justification and sanctification differ?

A. 77: Although sanctification be inseparably joined with justification,<sup>[1]</sup> yet they differ, in that God in justification imputeth the righteousness of Christ;<sup>[2]</sup> in sanctification his Spirit infuseth grace, and enableth to the exercise thereof;<sup>[3]</sup> in the former, sin is pardoned;<sup>[4]</sup> in the other, it is subdued;<sup>[5]</sup> the one doth equally free all believers from the revenging wrath of God, and that perfectly in this life, that they never fall into condemnation;<sup>[6]</sup> the other is neither equal in all,<sup>[7]</sup> nor in this life perfect in any,<sup>[8]</sup> but growing up to perfection.<sup>[9]</sup>

<sup>[1]</sup> I Cor. 1:30; 6:11

<sup>[2]</sup> Rom. 4:6, 8

<sup>[3]</sup> Eze. 36:27

<sup>[4]</sup> Rom. 3:24-25

<sup>[5]</sup> Rom. 6:6, 14

<sup>[6]</sup> Rom. 8:33-34

<sup>[7]</sup> I John 2:12-14; Heb. 5:12-14

<sup>[8]</sup> I John 1:8, 10

<sup>[9]</sup> II Cor. 7:1; Phil 3:12-14