

Imputed Righteousness

NT Word - Logizomai – λογίζομαι

Example: **Romans 4:20-22** “He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore it was **imputed to him for righteousness.**”

OT Word - Châshab- חשב

Example: **Genesis 15:6** in dealing with Abraham – “And he believed in the LORD; and **he counted it to him for righteousness.**”

Imputation - is used to designate any action or word or thing as reckoned to a person.

M. G. Easton, Illustrated Bible Dictionary and Treasury of Biblical History, Biography, Geography, Doctrine, and Literature (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1893), 344.

Justification - To justify means to declare righteous. Both the Hebrew (sadaq) and the Greek (dikaioo) words mean to announce or pronounce a favorable verdict, to declare righteous. The concept does not mean to make righteous, but to announce righteousness. It is a courtroom concept, so that to justify is to give a verdict of righteous. Since this is a forensic idea, justification is related to the concept of God as Judge.

Charles Caldwell Ryrie, Basic Theology: A Popular Systematic Guide to Understanding Biblical Truth (Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1999), 343.

Imputed righteousness allows God to declare us justified. We are righteous because we are “in Christ”. Our imputed righteousness is Christ’s righteousness. It is placed on our account as the word properly means. It is written on our ledger.

How does this tie into Philemon?

Philemon illustrates to us forgiveness and Paul uses the language of imputation. Paul says receive Onesimus as you would receive me, forgive and if he owes anything place it on my account.

*12 Whom I have sent again: thou therefore **receive him, that is, mine own bowels:***

*15 If thou count me therefore a partner, **receive him as myself.***

*18 If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought, **put that on mine account;***

Consider these verses:

II Corinthians 5:19-21 *To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, **not imputing their trespasses unto them;** and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors **For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.***

Ephesians 1:6 *To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein **he hath made us accepted in the beloved.***