

11. Verbs that end in *-óō* generally indicate bringing out that which a person is, i.e., to bring out the fact that a person is righteous.
12. Justification is the act which confirms the believer's vindication before the Supreme Court of Heaven. We are born condemned and spiritually dead.
13. Because of the believer's act of personal faith toward God's unique plan of salvation, the integrity of God through the justice of God pronounces him justified.
14. Man has no inherent affinity with the integrity of God. God has no affinity toward sinful man. Only through the system of faith in the Person and work of Christ can a fallen man become justified.
15. Without affinity with perfect God, then this justification is a forensic act by the justice of God that results in the person being vindicated before the Bar of God and declared justified.
16. There is a process by which this justification occurs:
 - (1) Personal faith in Christ. The object of faith possesses all the merit.
 - (2) The justice of God imputes His righteousness to anyone that believes.
 - (3) God judicially pronounces the believer justified and officially righteous.
17. This sequence establishes a grace pipeline from the justice of God to the believer who possesses the righteousness of God.
18. Biblical documentation for justification is found in several passages, but we will cite just a few:
 - (1) Justification is related to salvation by grace through faith in Christ in Romans 3:28; 5:1; Galatians 3:24.
 - (2) Justification is an act of divine grace noted in Romans 3:24; Titus 3:7.

- (3) Justification is not related to human works: Romans 3:20, 28; Galatians 2:16.
- (4) The mechanics of justification are found in Genesis 15:6 compared with Romans 3:22.
19. Therefor we “conclude” by “non-emotional thinking” based on “receptive apprehension” of the “facts as they are” and “grasped only by faith,” that a man is “justified by faith.”
20. The word “faith” is **πίστις (pístis)**: the nonmeritorious expression of one’s receptive apprehension of the gospel which presents Jesus Christ as the unique object of saving faith.
21. This saving faith is said to be “apart,” the ablative of separation of the adverb **χωρίς (chōrís)**: “apart; separated from, exclusive of.” The idiom “poles apart” means “complete opposition.”
22. Poles apart from what? “Works of the Law.” The things that are antithetical¹ are faith: *pístis* and works: **ἔργων (érgōn)**.
23. Any human effort performed by an unbeliever, no matter how small or well-intentioned, is a form of works that results in that person being disqualified for salvation. Ergo:
- Romans 3:28** - Therefore we conclude by non-emotional thinking based on receptive apprehension of the facts as they are and grasped only by faith, that a man is justified by faith (due to the judicial imputation of divine righteousness) which is poles apart from works of the Law.
24. All religions are based on a false concept of righteousness that assumes human works are sufficient to impress God or a human invention of a god or gods.

¹ “Consisting or marked by antithesis. Stresses clear and unequivocal diametrical opposition” (*Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary*, 2d ed., s.vv. “antithetical,” “opposite”).

25. The dichotomy of works verses grace is the telltale difference that eternally separates these mutually exclusive systems.

7. Counterfeit Eschatology

1. History is filled with a wide assortment of false gods usually unseen but depicted by the construction of idols.
2. Worship of these false gods demands a system to do so which is developed, approved, instituted, and maintained by a false priesthood.
3. Since false gods and false priests have nothing to do with God the Father and since false worship is promoted and developed through demon influence and demon possession, then the entirety of religion is the handiwork of Lucifer and his minions.
4. The major part of religion is its development of false or counterfeit systems that are designed to distract unbelievers and believers away from the inerrancy of the Bible.
5. In doing so, spiritual growth is halted and doctrine is distorted. Accusations about the inerrancy of Scripture are presented. What are considered to be telltale questions about certain verses or passages are introduced.
6. In the process, specific human personalities gain influence and popularity and become spokesmen for the devil's lie.
7. From time to time, some of these false teachers rise to such prominence that they are revered by their followers as spiritual patriarchs.
8. Some gather great followings made possible by the use of technological advances. Media are used to convey their false doctrines, acquire vast sums of money, and circulate their heresies through print and electronic contrivances.

9. Many of these charlatans are so good at what they do that their ability to capture the attention and influence the thoughts and actions of many is indeed impressive.
10. Since Lucifer promotes these people to prominence, I am of the opinion that throughout the Church Age he continues to keep a dossier on each of them.
11. In the process, he has been able to discern what personality traits, intellectual proclivities, leadership attributes, and successful strategies would gain the most traction for the Dark Side.
12. Adversely, he has also kept records on the negative aspects of these various personalities and from them has learned what doesn't work and therefore what not to employ.
13. By the time the Rapture occurs, Lucifer has a clear understanding of what personality quotient an individual must possess for him to indwell and then take on the duties of the Beast-Dictator who is described in the Book of Revelation.
14. This very idea is proposed by Clarence Larkin in his book *Dispensational Truth*:

He will be a "composite" man. One who embraces in his character the abilities and powers of Nebuchadnezzar, Xerxes, Alexander the Great and Caesar Augustus. He will have the marvelous gift of attracting unregenerate men, and the irresistible fascination of his personality, his versatile attainments, superhuman wisdom, great administrative and executive ability, along with his powers as a consummate flatterer, a brilliant diplomatist, a superb strategist, will make him the most conspicuous and prominent of men. All these gifts will be conferred on him by Satan whose tool he will be and who will thus make him the superman.

He will pose as a great humanitarian, the friend of men, and the especial friend of the Jewish race, whom he will persuade that he has come to usher in the "Golden Age" as pictured by the prophets, and who will receive him as their Messiah.

He will intoxicate men with a strong delusion and his never varying success. And when he shall be slain and rise again he will have lost none of these powers, but will be in addition the embodiment of all kinds of wickedness and blasphemy.²

14. Great confusion is evident in much of Christendom as we proceed into the twenty-first century. Most theologians do not know what time it is. Because of this, their theology is affected by the inability to interpret passages of Scripture.

² Clarence Larkin, *Dispensational Truth or God's Plan and Purpose in the Ages*, rev. ed. (Glenside, Penn.: Reverend Clarence Larkin Estate, 1920), 122.