

Bible Study

Topic: The Bible in the Wesleyan Heritage

Lesson #5: Vital Bible Doctrines, Part Three

“The Doctrine of Justification By Faith” Key Verse: Romans 5: 1-2

Proposition: Only saving faith in the Lord, Jesus Christ can justify or put one in right relationship with God.

1. The necessity of Saving Faith

- a. “The desire to be saved from one’s sin and to flee from the wrath to come is the one condition for membership in the A.M.E. Zion Church.
- b. Saving Faith is the primary condition for full Connectional membership in the A.M.E. Zion Church.
- c. Saving Faith is the only means of salvation according to the Scriptures:
 - i. Abraham was saved by faith (Genesis 15:6, Romans 4:1-5)
 - ii. David was saved by faith (Romans 4:6-8)
 - iii. Christians are saved by faith (John 1:12; Romans 3:20-22; Ephesians 2:8-9; Hebrews 11:6)

2. The Meaning of Saving Faith

Saving Faith is belief plus commitment. It is believing to the point of committing one’s life to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

- a. It involves believing the gospel (Romans 1:14-17)
- b. It involves believing with the heart (Romans 10:8-10)
- c. It involves confessing with the mouth (Romans 10:8-10)
- d. It involves calling on the name of the Lord (Romans 10:13)
- e. It involves opening one’s heart to Christ (Revelations 3:20)
- f. It involves receiving Christ as Lord and Savior (John 1:12)
- g. It involves trusting Christ alone for salvation (1 John 5:10-13)

3. The Justification that comes by Saving Faith

- a. Justification comes only by saving faith (Romans 3:26-28; Galatians 2:15-16)
- b. To be justified is to be declared righteous. (Romans 4:5-6)
- c. To be justified is to have all sins forgiven. (Romans 4:7-8)
- d. To be justified is to have the righteousness of Christ imputed or credited to one’s account. (Romans 4:3, 6, 11)
- e. To be justified to be received into the state of God’s grace. (Romans 5:1-2)
- f. To be justified is to be received into God’s family and to become one of His children. (John 1:12; Galatians 3:26; 4:4-7)
- g. To be justified is to be delivered from condemnation and to be given Eternal Life. (John 3:15-18; John 5:24)