

“Faith Requires A Lot Of Work” James 1:2-4

Imputation, a word representing a Bible concept or doctrine in our context, is one you're going to be hearing over and over because it's one that we all should be completely familiar with if we are ever going to fulfill James' command to consider or count it all pure joy when you fall into or face various trials. God's plan for all new immature believers or actually all believers for that matter is for them to receive blessings in time which glorify Him to the maximum. The English noun imputation is derived from the Latin verb IMPUTARI meaning to reckon, to attribute, to ascribe or to charge to someone's account. In theology, imputation describes an act of God in which either condemnation or blessing is reckoned or imposed on the human race in general. Imputation is the function of the justice of God directed toward man related to the plan of God for mankind. Imputation functions as an act of blessing or condemnation from the integrity of God to mankind. Imputation is used in the Bible in both a legal sense for condemnation and in a gracious sense for blessing. There are two categories of imputation: 1. Real imputation occurs when the justice of God imputes by way of affinity; meaning that what is imputed has a distinct connection with what is being imputed. 2. Judicial imputation occurs when the justice of God imputes what is not inherently someone's own, in other words, where there is no affinity. God's Judicial imputations include all of mankind's personal sins to the Lord Jesus on the Cross and God's perfect righteousness to believers at salvation. And all of this means that at salvation, we exchange our personal sins for the perfect righteousness of God imputed to us, which is our motivation and momentum to advance to spiritual maturity. Remember that in a judicial imputation, there is no connected target or home, so what's in view is what is being imputed. Judicial imputation #2 is one of fantastic blessing as God's perfect righteousness is imputed to all believers at salvation which establishes a grace pipeline protected by the integrity of God (His perfect righteousness and His justice). What the perfect righteousness of God demands, the justice of God executes and the perfect righteousness of God imputed to us at salvation, demands that we who are His receive living-grace support. And by the way, God's grace pipeline is always insulated against human works, talent or ingenuity. And this is the basis for one of God's 'a fortiori' principles: If the justice of God accomplished the greater blessing for us at salvation by imputing His perfect righteousness to us, it stands to reason, 'a fortiori' that He will not withhold the lesser blessing of the imputation of our escrow blessings in our eternal savings account. God's gracious imputation of His perfect righteousness to us at salvation is both our motivation and our source of momentum in the Christian way of life. Our motivation to persevere comes from processing the Word of God and that promotes our momentum for continuing to do so. Therefore, experiential righteousness always comes before true love. After salvation, you have the option of getting with the plan of God and growing in grace or not doing so; it's potential based on the fulfillment of your very own spiritual life. Sadly, far too many believers today have little to no capacity for greater-grace blessing from God and that means that arrogance reigns in them and therefore, they justify themselves, deceive themselves and ultimately remain completely absorbed with themselves. Integrity based on righteousness is the key to lasting joy. All-knowing God will not bless us beyond our capacity to receive His blessings. $G + T = H/B$
 G (God's Grace expressed toward us) + T (Our response of Thanksgiving or gratitude) = H (Inner Happiness or lasting joy) / B (Tremendous Blessing both now and forever)! Even the most talented machinist becomes ineffective without his tools and an available machine to use them on. We should all seek to be God-pleasers first! To be perfectly honest, there is no joy without a sense of genuine gratitude first.