

## Resurrection sequel

The world's best brains cannot solve the problem of human sin. We are powerless to end the war in our own hearts, let alone nation warring against nation. Imagine God's horror at what we, his creatures, do to ourselves. Into such a world came Jesus, God's Son. He made himself vulnerable – the target of human aggression, hatred, insult, and eventually murder. What would God the Father do now?

**First**, what God did is unknown in any nation's law codes or legal system. When Jesus, God's sinless Son, suffered the death all of us deserve because of our sin, God accepted Jesus as our substitute!! – “the just for the unjust.” 1 Peter 3.18.

**Second**, God even goes a step further – he now declares the believer just! He “justifies the man who has faith in Jesus.” Romans 3.26 (NIV). Being justified means just as if I'd never sinned! This concept too has no equivalent in human law anywhere in the world.

**Third**, being justified is more than being pardoned. By a pardon we would escape a penalty, but our guilt would remain. But being justified means that Jesus, our sin-bearer, has removed every aspect of our sin!

How could anyone reject this amazing act of God?

**What can we do to be found just before God? Nothing. We are “justified freely by his grace.” Romans 3.24.**

**Ken Packer**