FIVE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS CONERNING GOD'S IMPUTATION OF THE GRACE BELIEVER TO BE IN CHRIST

- Scripture Reading:
 - Ephesians 2:1-10

REVIEW

 Four weeks ago, we began a more thorough examination of one of the three Biblical covenants that God has provided for the Church – the Body of Christ. The three covenants consist of:

REVIEW

- The New Covenant for the Church, which provides each believer with Eternal Life by the indwelling Christ
- The Fourth Abrahamic Covenant, which promised Abraham a particular descendant who would bless all Nations – by imputing believers from the Nations to be place into God's opinion of them being seen IN HIS SON
- The Eternal Covenant, between God the Father and God the Son, in eternity past, that guaranteed the fulfillment of the two previous covenants

INTRODUCTION

The New Covenant – Christ in us, was fulfilled by the action of Holy Spirit regeneration (our human spirit joined to the spirit essence belonging to deity)

The Fourth Abrahamic – Us in Christ, was fulfilled by a mental act of God called imputation

DEFINITION OF IMPUTATION

To put or place onto one's account

The term is used 43x in NT

11x it is used in Romans 4

DEFINITION (CONTINUED)

Translated in the KJV by the words "impute", "reckon", and "account"

Two kinds of imputation:

Real imputation: an actual physical connection - Rom 5:12

<u>Judicial imputation</u>: only a connection made based on a judgment – II Cor 5:21

- Question #1: How can God righteously impute us to be in Christ?
 - **Answer:** by <u>propitiation</u> (satisfaction by Christ's death for our sins)
 - By <u>reconciliation</u> (adjustment to God's righteous standard because of Christ death for our sins)
 - POTENTIAL reconciliation for all
 - ACTUAL reconciliation for those who believe the gospel
 - By <u>redemption</u> (the complete and sufficient payment by the death of Christ for our sin debt)

- Question #2: How is this imputation implemented?
 - Answer: through Holy Spirit baptism
 - Co-crucified Gal 2:20
 - Co-buried Rom 6:4
 - Co-raised Eph 2:6
 - Co-seated Eph 2:6

- Question #3:
 - Can we lose this imputed position?
 - **Answer:** No! Eph 1:13-14

- Question #4: How long will this imputed position last?
 - Answer: Until the day of our compete redemption: the Rapture of the Church
 - Eph 4:30

- Question #5: WHY does God choose to impute us to be in Christ?
 - **Answer**: To focus our attention (our minds) so that we can use our indwelling **Eternal Life**, without interference from our 3 spiritual enemies
 - Col 3:1-3

CONCLUSION

- God has counted (imputed) the NT grace-believer to be place into His Son's death, burial, resurrection, and heavenly seating:
 - Righteously because of the great value of His Son's sacrificial death
 - Adequately till we no longer need our position in Christ at our glorification
 - Purposefully to enable us to fully grow in, and use, our salvation