

## The Reformation:

### Summary of Major Points of Debate in the Doctrine of Justification

<b>Justification</b>	<b>Roman Catholic</b>	<b>Protestant</b>
Is justification legal or moral?	Moral (makes a person inherently righteous)	Legal (declares a person righteous)
Is justification an event or a process?	Process	Event
Is justification distinct from sanctification or the same thing?	Same Thing	Distinct
Justification begins with...	Baptism	Faith
Justification is completed by...	Works	Faith
In justification, the grace of God...	Cooperates with our works to save us	Saves us through faith alone
In justification, the righteousness of Christ is...	Infused into the believer's moral soul	Imputed to the believer's account
In justification, the role of our good works is...	To make us good enough to merit salvation	The necessary fruit and product of salvation
Can justification be lost?	Yes*	Debated**
Is assurance of salvation possible in this life?	No	Yes

\*Roman Catholics believe one can lose his salvation if one commits a mortal sin (very heinous sin)

\*\*Whether or not a believer can lose his or her salvation is debated within Protestantism, but in the Reformed tradition, the answer is no: a believer cannot lose his or her justification/salvation.