**R930(89) Rumination for Nov. 20, 2022 June 12, 2022**

The **T**heme: **Two Abominations** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *He that* ***justifieth*** *the wicked, and he that* ***condemneth*** *the just,*

 *even they both are abomination to the LORD.* Pro. 17:15

The **T**hots:

1. **The Two Abominations –** *they both are abomination to the LORD* **Pro. 17:15**
2. The First Abomination: *He that justifieth the wicked*
3. The Second Abomination: *he that condemneth the just*
4. **Man’s Abominable Crime:**
5. **They Justified the Wicked**. Mt. 27:20, 21
	1. The Chief **P**riests and elders **P**ersuaded the people to have Barabbas freed… Mk. 15:7

*There was one named Barabbas, which lay bound with them that had made insurrection with him,*

*who had committed murder in the insurrection.*

* + 1. Though he was a **M**ob insurrectionist. Mk. 15:7
		2. Though he was a **M**urderer –
	1. **P**ilate sought to **P**lease the people and justified wicked Barabbas!

 *Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them.* Mk. 15:15

1. **They Condemned the Just**.
2. The **P**riests and the **P**eople cried out to **C**rucify Jesus: *Crucify Him.* Mk. 15:13
3. Pilate was **C**onvinced that Jesus was **J**ust:
	1. He said so himself: *Why, what evil hath He done?* Mk. 15:14
	2. He told the chief priests and the people, *I find no fault in this Man.* Lk. 23:4, 14
	3. His wife told him: *Have thou nothing to do with that just Man:* Mt. 27:19

But Pilate *willing to content the people* … *delivered Jesus…to be crucified* Mk. 15:15

**Thus, the Priests, the People and Pilate *justified the wicked* (Barabbas) and *Condemned the Just* (Jesus).**

1. **God’s Atoning Act: Rom. 8: 33, 34**

 *Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that* ***justifieth****.*

 *Who is he that* ***condemneth****? It is Christ that died,*

1. God **C**an ***Justify*** the Wicked in Jesus and make them ***Just*** because…:
	1. **J**esus, the **J**ust, had died for the unjust. I Pet. 3:18

 *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God.*

* 1. Jesus the Just had **S**uffered for **S**in (Sing.) as the **S**in **S**acrifice
		1. For He who knew no sin, was made **S**in (a **S**in **S**acrifice) for us. II Cor. 5:21

 *For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin;*

 *that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.*

* + 1. Ct. the **S**in **O**ffering that was available to Cain, but he did not avail himself of it. Gen. 4:7

 *If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well,* ***sin*** *lieth at the door.*

1. Jesus now can ***Condemn*** the Wicked who reject Him.
	* + 1. He was the ***Just*** Who died for the unjust. How could they be justified otherwise? Heb. 2:3

 *How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation…?*

* + - 1. He is the ***Light*** that has come into the world, but they reject the light. Jn. 3:19

*This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world,*

*and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil*

1. Therefore, who can now **C**harge God’s justified elect? Rom. 8:33, 34

 *Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.*

*Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again,*

*who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.*

 *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus* Rom. 8:1

 This is the joyful theme of our **C**elebration in our **C**ommemoration of our Lord this Lord’s Day.

*No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
Alive in Him, my living Head, And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th’eternal throne, And claim the crown, through Christ my own.
Bold I approach th’eternal throne, And claim the crown, through Christ my own*

 Charles Wesley

**Reflections for the Week R. 930**

**1.** *Justifying the wicked and condemning the Just* –

Though this Rumination is for Sunday (20 November), it would be sent out before Saturday for your preparation for the Lord’s Day.

 For those living in Malaysia, yesterday (19 November) was Election Day. By today,

a new Government would have been elected. What kind of Government can the citizens of Malaysia expect for the next five years? Yesterday was revelation day.

Would the people vote in a government that is corrupt, racialistic, populistic, chauvinistic, hypocritic, etc. - *that justifieth the wicked, and…that condemneth the just?* By today (Sunday), we would know its face, and in the days to come the kind of government it will be.

Therefore, as you go to the polls on Saturday, remember to pray for a government that will not earn God’s wrath upon His two abominations - *He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD* (Pro. 17:15).

Even as God is Supreme and He is the One Who Sets up governments to fulfil His Sovereign plans for the future, we are exhorted *to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work* (Tit. 3:1); to *submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by Him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well*. (I Pet. 2:13, 14). As responsible Citizens of our Country, let us fulfil our responsibilities. **REFLECT**

**2.** Are you guilty of the two abominations in securing self-interest at the expense of others?

 On the other hand, are you a victim of others who are guilty of these two abominations?

Meditate on **Jas. 5:1-13**, NIV and live out this week free of these abominable acts knowing what to do whatever the circumstances you are in.

**A. If you are Guilty:**

1. *Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery*

*that is coming upon you.*

1. *Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes.*
2. *Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you*

*and eat your flesh like fire.*

1. *You have hoarded wealth in the last days.*
2. *Look! The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty.*
3. *You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter.*
4. *You have* ***condemned*** *and murdered innocent men, who were not opposing you.*

**B. If You are a Victim:**

1. *Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains.*
2. *You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.*
3. *Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged.*

*The Judge is standing at the door!*

1. *Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering,*

*take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.*

1. *As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered.*

*You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.*

1. *Above all, my brothers, do not swear--not by heaven or by earth or by anything else.*

*Let your "Yes" be yes, and your "No," no, or you will be* ***condemned***

1. *Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise.* **REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder:** *Always Stand for the* ***R****ight and**Do the* ***R****ight things.*