

THE INSANITY OF LUTHER
(Romans 1:17)

- I. The Judgment Has Been Made by Twentieth-Century Psychoanalysts That Martin Luther Was, in Fact, Insane
 - A. What would provoke people to think that Luther was insane?
 1. Luther was intemperate with his speech
 2. He was clearly neurotic, particularly concerning his health
 3. He had many extraordinary phobias
 4. Luther became a monk after a close encounter with death in a lightning storm
 5. Luther froze—to everyone’s embarrassment—while ministering his first mass
 6. He had an apparent commitment to megalomania
 7. He carried tremendous guilt for every sin he committed
 - B. Many tend to overlook the fact that Luther was a brilliant student of law
 1. He applied this knowledge to the law of God
 2. He evaluated himself in light of the holy laws of God and found that he could never reach the standards of God’s righteousness

- II. “The Just Shall Live by Faith” (Romans 1:17).
 - A. This passage revealed to Luther that the righteousness of Christ is provided for all believers graciously and freely
 - B. Justification rests solely and completely on the righteousness of Christ
 - C. Justification by faith alone is the article upon which the church stands or falls; this is the Gospel