

God is JUST and the JUSTIFIER ~ Romans 3:21-26

→Scripture Reading Romans 1:16-17, 3:21-24

INTRODUCTION

Romans 1:16-17 (NIV) I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who BELIEVES: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. ¹⁷ For in the gospel a righteousness from God IS REVEALED, a righteousness that is BY FAITH from first to last, just as it is written: The righteous WILL live by FAITH.

^{3:10} ...There is NO ONE righteous, NOT even ONE; (NIV)

BAD News - our sin leads to God's CONDEMNATION and JUDGEMENT

^{3:20} NO ONE will be declared RIGHTEOUS in His sight by observing the Law; rather, through the Law we become conscious of sin. (NIV)

GOOD News - we can be DECLARED Righteous by FAITH

Righteousness FROM God BY Faith ~ Romans 3:21-26

²¹ But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Because Adam sinned we are ALL born with a sin Nature. But not only we are sinners by NATURE; we are also sinners by PRACTICE. We ALL fall SHORT of the glory of God. MacDonald

Isaiah 53:4-5 (NIV) Surely He took up OUR INFIRMITIES and carried OUR sorrows, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was pierced for OUR transgressions, He was crushed for OUR iniquities; the punishment that brought US peace was upon Him, and by His wounds WE are healed.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV) God made Him who had NO sin to BE SIN FOR US, so that **IN Him** we might become the RIGHTEOUSNESS of God.

²⁵ God presented Him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in His blood. He did this to demonstrate His justice, because in His forbearance He had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished -

Christ stands in our place, having paid the PENALTY of death for our sin, and He completely SATISFIES God's demands. His sacrifice brings pardon, deliverance, and freedom. LASB

²⁶ He did it to demonstrate His justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

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The wisdom of God's plan allowed Him to punish Jesus in the PLACE of sinners and thereby JUSTIFY those who are guilty without compromising His JUSTICE. MacArthur

A Righteousness FROM God...

- APART from the Law vs.21
- by FAITH in Christ ALONE vs. 22
- for EVERYONE who Believes vs. 22-23
- by GRACE vs. 24
- through REDEMPTION vs. 24
- by the BLOOD of Christ vs. 24
- which SATISFIES God's JUSTICE - vs. 25-26

Leviticus 17:11 (NIV) For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.

The sacrificial animal's shed blood signified the life that was being given up for the person's sin. Likewise, Christ's blood signifies the life He poured out for our sin and the death He accepted in our place. LifeCS

IMPLICATION

→ ALL sin SEPARATES us From God

²¹ But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known...

²² This righteousness from God **comes through FAITH in Jesus Christ** to all who **BELIEVE**.

²³ for ALL have SINNED and FALL SHORT of the glory of God,

John 3:17-18 (NIV) For God did NOT send his Son into the world TO CONDEMN the world, but to SAVE the world through Him. ¹⁸ Whoever BELIEVES in Him is NOT CONDEMNED, but whoever does NOT believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

1 John 1:9 (NIV) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

→ God PERFECTLY balances JUSTICE and GRACE

²⁶ He did it to demonstrate His justice at the present time, so as to be JUST and the one who JUSTIFIES those who have FAITH in Jesus.

Righteousness through Faith DACarson

- God's completely Gracious Justification of ANY person who puts their FAITH in Christ
- is Justification BASED on Christ's SACRIFICIAL Death
- Christ's Death enables God to remain JUST even as He JUSTIFIES sinful men

TAKE AWAY ??

→ We have been REDEEMED by the Blood of Jesus

²³ For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

²⁴ They are justified freely by His grace through the REDEMPTION that is in Christ Jesus. (HCS)

1 Peter 1:18-19 (HCS) For you know that you were REDEEMED from your empty way of life inherited from the fathers, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious BLOOD of Christ, like that of a LAMB without defect or blemish.

Philippians 1:6 (HCS) I am sure of this, that He who STARTED a good work IN you will CARRY IT ON to COMPLETION until the day of Christ Jesus.