

A Righteousness from God

Romans 3:21-31

Introduction

I A Righteousness From God

- A. A righteousness that is not based on the **law** - Phil 3:9
- B. A righteousness that has been made **known**
 - 1. The Law testifies of it - Gal 3:8-9
 - 2. The Prophets testify of it - Acts 10:43; Luke 24:44
- C. A righteousness that comes through **faith** in Jesus Christ
 - 1. To all who believe regardless race - Rom 10:12-13
 - a. For all have **sinned** and fall short of God's glory - Eccl 7:20
 - b. For all are **justified** freely by His grace - Eph 2:8-9
 - 1. Through the redemption of Christ - 1 Pet 1:18-19

II A Righteousness Through Christ

- A. God presented Christ as:
 - 1. A sacrifice of **atonement**: - 1 Jn 4:10; 2 Cor 5:21
 - a. Through faith in His blood - Phil 3:8-9
- B. God did this to:
 - 1. Demonstrate His **past** justice
 - a. He left previous sins unpunished - Acts 17:30-31
 - 2. To demonstrate His **present** justice - Is 45:21
 - a. He is just in **judging** man's sin - Deut 32:4
 - b. He is just in **justifying** repentant sinners - Rom 4:25
 - 1. Those who have faith in Jesus - Rom 10:4

III A Righteousness By Faith

- A. Faith excludes boasting. Why?
 - 1. Boasting is rational if one relies on the **Law** - Rom 4:2
 - 2. Boasting is irrational if one relies on **faith** - 1 Cor 1:30-31
- B. Faith excludes boasting. Why?
 - 1. We are **justified** by faith apart from the Law - Eph 2:8-9; Gal 2:16-17
- C. Faith excludes boasting. Why?
 - 1. God is the God of both Jew and Gentile
 - a. The **circumcised** are justified by faith - Acts 13:38-39

- b. The **uncircumcised** are justified by faith - Act 15:9

IV A Righteousness Of Balance

- A. The Law is not **nullified** by faith - Matt 5:17-18
- B. The Law is **upheld** by faith - Gal 3:24

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. How hard is it for you to own up to your failures, sins, and weaknesses? Do you 1) admit them right away, 2) initially resist and then eventually confess, or 3) defend yourself to the death? Why do you think we are so obsessed with convincing ourselves and others that we are better than we are?
2. Read Mk 2:15-17; Lk 18:10-14; 19:10; Rom 5:6-8; 1 Tim 1:15; Titus 3:3-7. Based on these passages, what kind of person is a candidate for God's gift of righteousness through Jesus Christ?
3. Look up the words "justification," "redemption," and "atonement" in a dictionary. How are these words related to one another? And what do each of these terms convey in relation to the ministry of Jesus Christ on the cross?
4. According to this passage, what actions has God taken to offer you a righteous standing? What are the conditions laid out in 3:21-21 for receiving this gift of righteousness? Have you met these conditions?
5. In light of God's way of righteousness, what happens to pride and boasting? Why? If this is so, what should mark the life of an authentic believer? Does this characteristic mark your life? Why or why not?
6. Take a few moments to acknowledge before God your true spiritual condition. Confess and repent of any sin that you are aware of and give Him the glory He deserves for His indescribable gift of a righteous standing in Jesus Christ.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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