

FAITH AND JUSTIFICATION: THE WAY FOR THE WORLD TO BE RIGHT WITH GOD

(89)

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[Romans 3:21-5:21](#)

(Continuation from 04/15/18)

A. Righteousness: The Way to be Right With God, [Romans 3:21-26](#)

[Romans 3:21-26 \(NASB\)](#)

²¹ “But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,
²² even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction;
²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;
²⁵ whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;*
²⁶ for the demonstration, *I say*, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”

[\(Romans 3:21-26\)](#) Introduction— Righteousness: the “righteousness of God” is used in three ways in Scripture.

1. Righteousness means God’s character. It means the righteousness, justice, and perfection which God Himself possesses and shows.
2. Righteousness refers to man’s lack of godly character. It means the sinful, depraved, unrighteous, unjust, and imperfect nature and behavior of man.
3. Righteousness means the righteousness, that is, the perfection which God provides for man in Christ Jesus. When a man allows the Lord Jesus Christ to take his sins, he is given the righteousness of God. Christ robes the man in the righteousness of God Himself—by faith ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#); [Philippians 3:9](#)).

[2 Corinthians 5:21 \(NASB\)](#)

²¹ “He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

[Philippians 3:9 \(NASB\)](#)

⁹ “And may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith.”

1. Righteousness is now revealed (v.21-22).
2. Righteousness is for everyone (v.22-23).
3. Righteousness is only possible through justification (v.24).
4. Righteousness is by an act of God alone: by propitiation (v.25).
5. Righteousness has one purpose: to proclaim God's personal righteousness (v.25-26).

3. (Romans 3:24) Righteousness— Justification: righteousness is possible only through justification.

Romans 3:24 (NASB)

²⁴“Being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.”

Note two significant facts.

1. Justification is a free gift of God. Man, in no way earns it. Man is justified by God’s grace and by God’s grace alone. (See below Deeper Study # 8, Grace—Romans 4:16; note, Deeper Study # 9, Grace — Titus 2:15 for more discussion.)

2. Justification is only through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus (*en Christō Iēsou*).

DEEPER STUDY # 10

Romans 3:24 (NASB)

²⁴“Being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.”

(Romans 3:24) Redemption (apolutrōseōs): “to redeem, to deliver by paying a price.”

The word is used three ways in the New Testament.

1. It means to “redeem (*agorazo*): to deliver”; to set free from the slave market of sin, death, and hell.

1 Corinthians 6:20 (NASB)

²⁰“For you have been bought [redeemed] with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.”

1 Corinthians 7:23 (NASB)

²³“You were bought [redeemed] with a price; do not become slaves of men.”

2 Peter 2:1 (NASB)

¹ But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves.

2. It means to redeem *out of* (*exagorazo*): to deliver *out of* the enslavement to sin, death, and hell. It means to be delivered *out of* and never returned.

Galatians 3:13 (NASB)

¹³“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, “CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE”

Galatians 4:5 (NASB)

⁵“So that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.”

3. It means to redeem (*lutroo*): “to deliver by paying a price; to buy.”

Titus 2:14 (NASB)

¹⁴“Who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.”

1 Peter 1:18 (NASB)

¹⁸“Knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers.”

Redemption is “in Christ Jesus” (*en Christou lesou*), wrought through His death and sufferings. Of this there can be no doubt; the fact is critical to a person’s destiny. Redemption is not brought about...

- 1) by the life of Christ.
- 2) by the power of Christ.
- 3) by the example of Christ.

Scripture is abundantly clear about this. His cross and His sacrifice in death are what brought about redemption. Redemption is...

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. accomplished | 5. effected |
| 2. a reality | 6. a truth |
| 3. wrought | 7. fulfilled |
| 4. produced | 8. a fact |

...because of the shed blood of Jesus Christ, God’s very own Son.

Leviticus 17:11 (NASB)

¹¹“For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.”

Matthew 20:28 (NASB)

²⁸“Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served [ministered], but to serve [minister], and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Romans 3:24 (NASB)

²⁴“Being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.”

1 Corinthians 6:20 (NASB)

²⁰“For you have been bought [redeemed] with a price: therefore, glorify God in your body.”

1 Corinthians 7:23 (NASB)

²³“You were bought [redeemed] with a price; do not become slaves of men.”

Ephesians 1:7 (NASB)

⁷“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.”

Colossians 1:14 (NASB)

¹⁴“In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

1 Timothy 2:5-6 (NASB)

⁵“For there is one God, *and* one mediator also between God and men, *the* man Christ Jesus,

⁶ who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony *given* at the proper time.”

Hebrews 9:15 (NASB)

¹⁵“For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were *committed* under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.”

1 Peter 1:18-19 (NASB)

¹⁸“Knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers,

¹⁹ but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the* blood of Christ.”

2 Peter 2:1 (NASB)

¹“But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought [redeemed] them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves.”

Revelation 5:9 (NASB)

⁹“And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood *men* from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.”

Revelation 14:3-4 (NASB)

³“And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been purchased from the earth.

⁴These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they have kept themselves chaste. These *are* the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb.”