

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

(93)

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

(Continuation from 05/27/18)

B. Faith: The Way that Puts an End to Human Boasting and Pride, to Self-Righteousness and Works, [Romans 3:27-31](#)

[Romans 3:27-31 \(NASB\)](#)

²⁷ “Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.

²⁸ For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

²⁹ Or is God *the God* of Jews only? Is He not *the God* of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also,

³⁰ since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one.

³¹ Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law.”

[\(Romans 3:27-31\) Introduction](#): one of the most powerful forces in all the world is faith. This passage discusses the power of faith, revealing four things that faith does.

1. [Faith excludes boasting \(v.27\).](#)
2. [Faith justifies a man without the works of the law \(v.28\).](#)
3. [Faith reveals only one God, who deals with all equally \(v.29-30\).](#)
4. [Faith upholds and establishes the law \(v.31\).](#)

[DEEPER STUDY # 1 \(Romans 3:27-31\) Faith](#)

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[Romans 3:27-31 \(NASB\)](#)

²⁷ “Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.

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[\(Romans 3:27-31\)](#) **Faith**: see below [Deeper Study # 2, John 2:24](#); see note [Deeper Study # 3](#),—[Romans 10:16-17](#); and [Deeper Study # 4, Hebrews 10:38](#).

DEEPER STUDY # 3

[Romans 10:16-17 \(NASB\)](#)

¹⁶“However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, “LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?”

¹⁷So faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.”

[Romans 10:16-17](#) **Salvation— Belief— Hearing**: Scripture says the gospel is universal. Isaiah says that many Jews did not “believe the report [message] of God” (cp. [Isaiah 53:1](#)).

[Isaiah 53:1 \(NASB\)](#)

¹“Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?”

Therefore, they prove that salvation is not by **race, heritage, tradition, religion, institution**, nor by **works** established by the Jewish nation or any other people.

Note a second thing: Isaiah used the phrase, “**believing our message**.” Isaiah was saying that *believing the message* is the way of salvation. The message was to stir faith.

There are **three steps** involved in faith. (See above [Deeper Study # 2— John 2:24](#).)

1. The step of hearing. A man must be willing to listen to the message of Christ.

[Matthew 13:16 \(NASB\)](#)

¹⁶“But blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear.”

[Matthew 13:23 \(NASB\)](#)

²³“And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.”

[Luke 10:39 \(NASB\)](#)

³⁹“She had a sister called Mary, who was seated at the Lord’s feet, listening to His word.”

[Luke 18:15 \(NASB\)](#)

¹⁵“And they were bringing even their babies to Him so that He would touch them, but when the disciples saw it, they *began* rebuking them.”

John 1:12 (NASB)

¹²“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name.”

Acts 17:11 (NASB)

¹¹“Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily *to see* whether these things were so.”

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NASB)

¹³“For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted *it not as* the word of men, but *for* what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.”

James 1:19 (NASB)

¹⁹“This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak *and* slow to anger.”

Proverbs 8:34 (NASB)

³⁴“Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at my doorposts.”

Proverbs 15:31 (NASB)

³¹“He whose ear listens to the life-giving reproof Will dwell among the wise.”

Proverbs 18:15 (NASB)

¹⁵“The mind of the prudent acquires knowledge, And the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.”

2. **The step of mental assent.** A man must agree that the message is true, that the facts of the case are thus and so. But this is not enough. Mere agreement does not lead to action. Many a person knows that something is true, but he does not change his behavior to match his knowledge. For example, a man knows that eating too much harms his body, but he may continue to eat too much. He is a double-minded man: he agrees to the truth and knows the truth, but he does nothing about it. This man still does not have faith, not the kind of faith that the Bible talks about.

James 1:18 (NASB)

¹⁸“In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.”

James 4:8 (NASB)

⁸“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.”

Luke 16:12 (NASB)

¹²“And if you have not been faithful in *the use of* that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?”

1 Corinthians 10:21 (NASB)

²¹“You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.”

Hosea 10:2 (NASB)

²“Their heart is faithless; Now they must bear their guilt. The LORD will break down their altars *And* destroy their *sacred* pillars.”

3. The step of commitment. When the New Testament speaks of faith, it speaks of *commitment*, a personal commitment to the truth. A man hears the truth and agrees that it is true and does something about it. He commits and yields his life to the truth. The truth becomes a part of his very being, a part of his behavior and life.

Saving faith is believing in the name of Jesus Christ and committing one's life to Him. It is trusting Jesus Christ, completely putting one's trust in Him, who He is and what He has done. It is casting one's life into His hands, believing He will take care of one's past (sins), present (looking after), and future (delivering from death unto life eternal).

John 3:15 (NASB)

¹⁵“So that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.”

John 3:36 (NASB)

³⁶“He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

John 5:24 (NASB)

²⁴“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”

John 6:28-29 (NASB)

²⁸“Therefore they said to Him, “What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?”

²⁹ Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent.”

John 11:25 (NASB)

²⁵“Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies.”

John 20:31 (NASB)

³¹“But these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.”

Acts 8:37 (NASB)

³⁷[And Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”]

Acts 10:43 (NASB)

⁴³“Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins.”

Acts 13:39 (NASB)

³⁹“And through Him everyone who believes is freed from all things, from which you could not be freed through the Law of Moses.”

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Series: The Book of Romans

Acts 16:31 (NASB)

³¹ They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

Romans 10:9 (NASB)

⁹ “That if you confess with your mouth Jesus *as* Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

James 2:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ “Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, *being* by itself.”