

11-04-18

Series: The Book of Romans

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

(97)

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

(Continuation from 10/28/18)

## 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 \(NASB\)](#)

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

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

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

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

<sup>31</sup> 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).**

### 4. [\(Romans 3:31\) Faith— Law](#): faith upholds and establishes the law.

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

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

This means at least three things.

1. **Jesus Christ established the law.** Jesus was everything that God said a man should be. He was the ideal of all that God wants man to be. Therefore, Jesus fulfilled the law perfectly.

But there is something more. Jesus not only fulfilled the statutes of the law; He fulfilled the penalty of the law. He took the penalty and the punishment of man upon Himself and died for man. Man is thereby absolved from the penalty and punishment exacted by the law. Therefore, Jesus established the law by fulfilling both the statutes and penalty demanded by the law.

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**Matthew 5:17 (NASB)**

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.”

**Romans 8:3 (NASB)**

<sup>3</sup> “For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God *did*: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and *as an offering* for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh.”

**Galatians 3:13 (NASB)**

<sup>13</sup> “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.”

2. The believer establishes the law when he admits he is a law breaker or a sinner. In so doing, he admits that the law is good. The law is good because it points out his sin ([Romans 3:19-20](#); [Romans 5:20](#); [Romans 7:7](#); [Galatians 3:19](#)).

**Romans 3:19-20 (NASB)**

<sup>19</sup> “Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, so that every mouth may be closed and all the world may become accountable to God;

<sup>20</sup> because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin.”

**Romans 5:20 (NASB)**

<sup>20</sup> “The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.”

**Romans 7:7 (NASB)**

<sup>7</sup> “What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? May it never be! On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law; for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, “YOU SHALL NOT COVET.”

**Galatians 3:19 (NASB)**

<sup>19</sup> “Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made.”

It makes him guilty and it leads him to confess his need for help outside of himself. But the law is also good because it points man to Christ. It makes man cast himself upon Christ *for righteousness*. It forces him to believe in God and to honor God. Therefore, the believer’s faith establishes the law.

**Galatians 3:19 (NASB)**

<sup>19</sup> “Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made.”

**Galatians 3:22 (NASB)**

<sup>22</sup> “But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.”

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**Galatians 3:24 (NASB)**

<sup>24</sup>“Therefore the Law has become our tutor *to lead us* to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.”

**Romans 10:4 (NASB)**

<sup>4</sup>“For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”

**Romans 10:9-10 (NASB)**

<sup>9</sup>“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;

<sup>10</sup>for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.”

**3. The believer establishes the law (much more than a legalist) because in seeing what Christ has done for him, he is driven to please God.** The believer sees Christ bearing the guilt and punishment for his crimes (sins), and then bows in love and adoration, and arises to work in appreciation for such amazing love. The believer tries to be good, not to earn or to win righteousness, but to serve God. He does not try to put God in debt for salvation, but he thanks God for righteousness, seeing that he owes God whatever service he can do. The genuine believer has come to know above all others that love is a much stronger force than fear.

**2 Corinthians 5:14-15 (NASB)**

<sup>14</sup>“For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died;

<sup>15</sup>and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.”

**Galatians 2:20 (NASB)**

<sup>20</sup>“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.”

**1 John 3:16 (NASB)**

<sup>16</sup>“We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.”