

GOSPEL POWER EXPLAINED

Jesus IS the gospel, the power of God for salvation

Justification: to be DECLARED right in God's Court.

vv21-23 The Righteousness of God Is on Display

1. By the _____ of torah and the prophets
2. By the testimony of Jesus' _____ (fulfills law & all)

vv 24-26 The Righteousness of Jesus Can Be Transferred to The Guilty

1. We can be _____ by grace through faith 24
2. Jesus is the _____: the Go-Between 25
3. Jesus saves people on _____ and debit 26

vv 27-31 The Saint's Righteousness is Declared Apart from Works

1. Faith alone by grace alone in Christ alone is vital for POWER
2. Faith alone by grace alone in Christ alone is vital for _____

Romans 3:21-31 *net*

Paul Explains the Theme of 1:16-17 "Gospel Power"

21 But now apart from the law the **righteousness of God** (although it is attested by the law and the prophets) has been disclosed— **22** namely, the **righteousness of God** through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, **23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

24 But they are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. **25** God publicly displayed him at his death as the mercy seat accessible through faith. This was to demonstrate **his righteousness**, because God in his forbearance had passed over the sins previously committed. **26** This was also to demonstrate **his righteousness** in the present time, so that he would be just and the justifier of the one who lives because of Jesus' faithfulness.

27 Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded! By what principle? Of works? No, but by the principle of faith! **28** For we consider that a person is declared **righteous** by faith apart from the works of the law. **29** Or is God the God of the Jews only? Is he not the God of the Gentiles too? Yes, of the Gentiles too! **30** Since God is one, he will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. **31** Do we then nullify the law through faith? Absolutely not! Instead we uphold the law.

The GOSPEL Defined

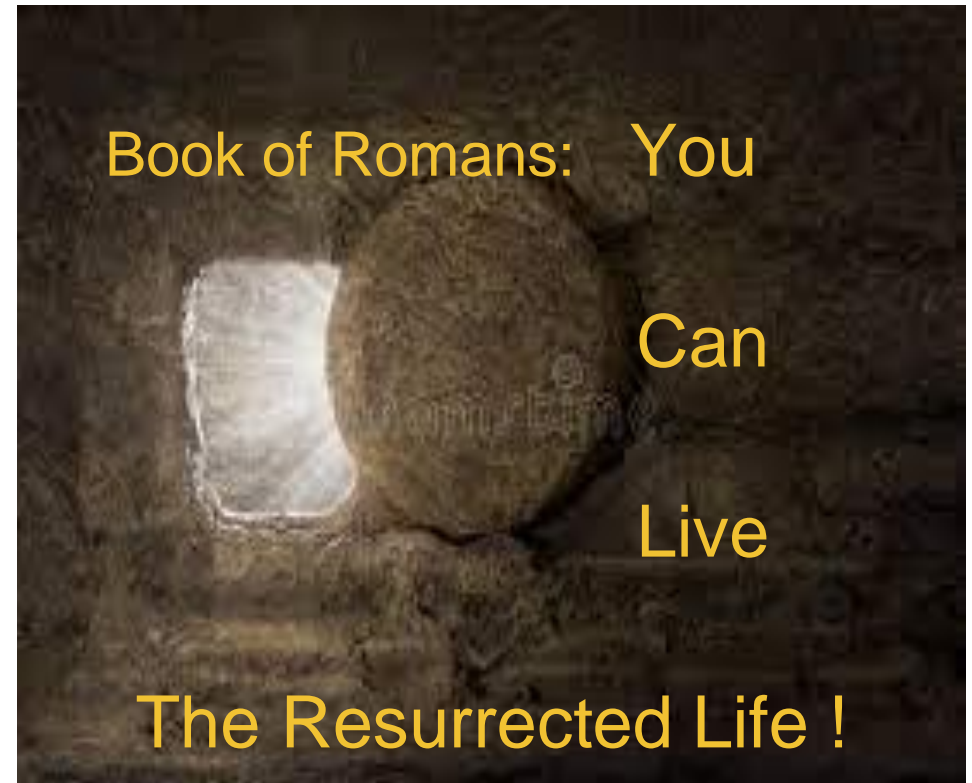
According to the Scrabble website the letters G O S P E L can be used to make 60 different words. The word 'gospel' is jumbled often. I mean that it is often given a jumbled meaning. But as the Holy Spirit uses the word "gospel" as seen in the New Testament, it is a synonym for 'Jesus.'

For example, the first 4 books in the New Testament are called 'gospels.' We have the Gospel according to Matthew, the Gospel according to Mark, the Gospel according to Luke, and the Gospel according to John. It would be accurate to say, "The Jesus according to Matthew, The Jesus according to Mark," etc. Maybe it would be clearer if we said the names of those books that way. This is because the gospel IS Jesus.

We have four Gospels because each of those books is a view of Jesus from four perspectives and witnesses, from first source testimonies. All four are about the same Person: Jesus. Jesus is "the gospel," and, "the gospel" is Jesus, the Person. For this reason, the entire bible is the gospel b/c the entire bible is about Jesus.

When Paul says in the theme verse of the book of Romans, "I am not ashamed of the *gospel*..." (1:16-17), he is saying he is not ashamed of the Person Jesus and all that Jesus IS and DOES. *Gospel* means 'good news.' Jesus is the only absolute good news. He is God's media (The Word, John 1:1). And there are no fake or nuanced narratives in Jesus, The Word. He is pure Truth.

Now we come to a section (Romans 3:21-31) where the Spirit of God explains (expounds) *the gospel* and how Jesus-Gospel saves (justifies). The Spirit also accomplishes explaining what is NOT the gospel: religion is not the gospel, good works is not the gospel, laws (operating principles) are not the gospel. Good works will not save me, will not keep me saved, and will not prove that I am saved. Salvation is found in no other entity but Jesus (whose very name means *salvation*). Anything other than His Good Works (instead of my good works) will fail to justify me in the eyes of God's Court.



What we've learned so far...

(This book is to & for Christians)

1. Living Jesus' life now, is possible (Rom 1:16-17)
2. The "wrath" is me reaping what I sow, now (1:18)
3. Know! He will let me walk away from Him (1:19-32)
4. Comparing self to others is self damning (2:1-5)
5. Learn! As God let Israel suffer wrath, so me too (2:6f)
5. All of us have a powerless flesh nature (3:9-20)
6. Jesus alone is *The Gospel*, right & faithful (3:21-31)