

Welcome!

- ✓ *Grab a cup of coffee and breakfast.*
- ✓ *Say hello to someone you don't know.*
- ✓ *We'll gather at 10:20am.*

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Preparing our Hearts for Worship

“I (God) revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me. To a nation that did not call on my name, I said, ‘Here am I, here am I.’

All day long I have held out my hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good, pursuing their own imaginations— a people who continually provoke me to my very face, offering sacrifices in gardens and burning incense on altars of brick.”

– Isaiah 65:1-3

THE BOOK OF
ROMANS

*“THE RIGHTEOUS WILL LIVE
BY FAITH”*

CHAPTER 3

Purpose

The primary purpose of today's message from Romans 3 is to understand “justification by faith” the HOW behind “The righteous will live by faith?” When we understand the “How?” it gives us a greater appreciation for the “What?” which in turn, enlarges our hearts with gratitude and activates our lives with joyfulness.

6 Questions

1. Is there any advantage to growing up in a home that honors God?
2. Is God unjust?
3. Are we better than others?
4. Can we be justified by the Law?
5. **How are we justified by grace?**
6. Do we have any right to boast?

1. Is There Any Advantage? (vs. 1-2)

1 What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision? 2 Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God.

2. Is God Unjust? (vs. 5, 8)

5 But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unjust who inflicts wrath? 8 And why not say, “Let us do evil that good may come”?

3. Are We Better? (vs. 9a, 10-12,18)

9 What then? Are we better than they? Not at all.

10 As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one." 18 "There is no fear of God before their eyes."



*“Man seeks
after God in
the same way
that a mouse
seeks after
a cat.”*

– C.S. Lewis

Q: Why do people not want the Good News?

“This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.”

- John 3:19

4. Justified by Law? (vs. 20)

20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight.

5. Justified by Grace? (vs. 21-25a)

21 But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; 23 for all have sinned and fall

short of the glory of God, 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith.

“Justified freely by His grace” (vs. 24)

Judgment THEN Declaration

VS.

Declaration THEN Judgment



What is “justification?”

Justification is an act of God’s free grace unto sinners, whereby he pardons all their sins, accepts them as righteous in his sight; not for anything in them, or done by them, but only for the perfect obedience and righteousness of Christ, imputed to them, and received by faith alone.

THEOLOGY 101

- **Imputation (def):** apply or credit to one's account
- **Propitiation (def):** taking upon; to satisfy the demands of justice (God's wrath)
- **Expiation (def):** removing from; God removes our sin and casts it away from us as far as the east is from the west (Psalm 103:12)

Justification summarized

God **declares** that we are **justified** in His sight, even while we are still sinners. He is able to do so, because He provides both **propitiation** and **expiation**, and it is **faith** that makes this real in our lives.



Courtroom Illustration

6. Can We Boast? (vs. 27-28)

27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

Conclusion

When Jesus said that He had come to set the captives free, He meant it. Because of God's justifying grace, you are free. Truly and completely free. Whom the Son sets free is free indeed (John 8:36)!

The Blessing

Galatians 5:1 & John 8:36

“It is for freedom that Christ has set you free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourself be burdened again by a yoke of slavery, because... if the Son has set you free, you will be free indeed.”