

RIGHTEOUSNESS REVEALED

Righteous By Faith

I. **The origin of righteousness-Your righteousness originates with Jesus and his obedience, not yours; your unrighteousness originated with Adam and his disobedience not yours**

- A. It's vitally important to understand the condition in which every man starts
 - 1. 9-Every person born into the world is born under the power and control of sin and therefore is unrighteous, at fault and guilty before God
 - a. 10-No man starts off as righteous; no one is born into this world righteous; if there was there'd be no need to be born again-John 3:7
 - 2. 11-18-This is the condition of the unrighteous man who is not born-again
 - a. Whatever the unrighteous man isn't the righteous man is
- B. Romans 5:12-21-Discovering what makes you an unrighteous sinner will be paramount understanding what makes you righteous-What makes you an unrighteous sinner?
 - 1. The problem is that sin, death, and unrighteousness were reigning
 - a. 13,14-Sin was in the world before the law was here, but sin was not imputed against man where there was no law and yet that didn't stop death from reigning even in the lives of those who didn't sin like Adam sinned
 - b. Death reigned even in those who endeavored with all their heart to obey God
 - 2. What Jesus did on the cross at Calvary was **FAR** greater than what Satan did in Adam at the Garden of Eden
 - a. 16-The guilt and unrighteousness and sin that came as result of Adam's disobedience cannot even be compared to the power of what Jesus did and the freedom and right-standing that came as a result of what he did
 - b. Never approach your sin, guilt, and condemnation like it's greater than the blood for the two are not to be compared; sin is not match for the blood
 - 1) The blood of Jesus obliterated sin, stripped sin of it's power; the blood of Jesus not only removed sin, not only thwarted it's effectiveness, but it completely destroyed any evidence that sin ever existed
 - 3. In these verses the focus is on what one person did effecting many
 - a. 15-Something came to many people b/c of one man's sin and now something much greater is coming to many more people because of one man's obedience
 - b. 18-What 1 man did lead to condemnation for all, not what you did; in the same way what another man did lead to right-standing with God, not what you did

- c. 19-You were a sinner because of one man's disobedience not yours and you're made righteous because of one man's obedience not because of your own
 - 1) Because Adam sinned you were born under the power and control of it and therefore you were an unrighteous sinner; you were a sinner before you sinned, that's why you sinned; you weren't a sinner b/c you sinned
 - d. You're name was not mentioned in this scripture b/c you're sin doesn't make you unrighteous, and likewise your obedience doesn't make you righteous
- C. All you had to do to be a sinner is be born into the world; you don't have to do anything wrong; and all you have to do to be made the righteousness is of God is be born again; you don't have to do anything right-Psalm 51:5, Gal 3:22
- 1. If you believe your sin makes you a sinner, then you are forced to believe your righteousness makes you righteous; However, if you believe Adam's sin made you a sinner, then you can believe Jesus righteousness makes you righteous
 - 2. Once you get born again, you are righteous, before you do anything righteous; you're not righteous b/c you do righteous, you do righteous b/c you are righteous

II. **Romans 3:9-30-Right-standing with God is the result of our faith in Jesus**

- A. Romans 3:20-The purpose of the law was not to make men righteous; ***doing good things was never the avenue in which a man could be made righteous;*** The law was given to make men aware and conscious of what sin was
- 1. Galatians 3:11,19-24-They're trying to use the law as an **avenue** to be made righteous, but that's not why the law was given; it was given to keep these people from destroying themselves through sin and to keep them on track until Jesus came
 - a. 21-The law has no ability to make man righteous neither do good deeds
 - b. Gal 3:6-Righteousness was to be credited to them like it was to Abraham and the law was given to them to keep them safe into Jesus came
 - 1) Their sin was not imputed against them, but it was only covered, there was still a consciousness of it; it took Jesus' blood to be presented holy before God
 - c. 23,24-The law was the avenue by which they would stay guarded and kept and protected in this life and the next until Jesus came; even if they died, if while they lived, they endeavored to live by the law, they were kept in that safe place
 - 1) Even today the principle is the same; God didn't give you this written word so that you could do to be righteous; he gave you the word so you could be protected in the Earth, but you're righteous by faith
 - 2) The principles of the word are not given so you can do them and be made righteous; but rather they are given so you can live a righteous life

2. Romans 3:21-**Now** the righteousness that was talked about in the law and the prophets is being manifested apart from the law
- B. 22-Right-standing with God comes through our faith in Jesus Christ and it comes upon all of them who believe, not all of them who do good works
1. 22,23-Anybody and everybody can be made righteous and is a candidate to be made righteous because everybody was a born sinner; There's no difference, all have sinned because all have been born
 - a. The revelation is that this is for everybody; anybody can have this righteousness
 2. 25-Jesus was a propitiation & we receive through faith in his blood, not good works
 - a. You get in on that through **faith in his blood**; Faith in the cleansing power of the blood to remove your sin from the records from everybody for all time
 3. 26-He is the justifier of them which believe in Jesus
 - a. 27-Because you are made righteous by faith it excludes boasting; you did nothing
 - b. 28-Good deeds have nothing to do with man being made righteous
 - c. 30-The common denominator of being made righteous is faith not good works; The common denominator in being unrighteous is unbelief not bad works
 4. 24-Being made righteous is a free act of grace received through faith
 - a. If you're justified freely that means you didn't work for it, do something to earn it
 - b. Romans 4:1-9-There is no work to be done for righteousness b/c it's free
 - 1) 3-5-If he worked for it, then it was owed, but he believed at it was credited

III. If you're good works can't make you righteous, bad works can't make you unrighteous

- A. ***If no work made me righteous, but rather faith made me righteous then once I'm righteous no work can make unrighteous, but only rejecting Jesus can***
1. Even when I'm doing wrong, I'm still right with God
 2. Your right standing with God is not hinging and dependent on your good works, but rather on your faith; if you do something wrong you don't become unrighteous
 3. Righteousness says you are right with God even when you have done wrong
 4. It's like a parent with a rebellious kid; you may not like what they are doing, but you always accept them
 - a. He loves me and I'm right with Him because I'm his son/daughter-Luke 15:11
 - b. It didn't matter what his son did, he was accepted by the Father
- B. As a believer when you sin, when you are sinning, you're not unrighteous again because it no longer has to do with what you do or don't do
1. A tree does not try to be a tree. By nature, it is a tree. A man does not try to be a man. By nature, he is a man. Nothing can change what you are by nature. Just as nothing can change what we are

by nature, sin cannot change our new nature when our nature has been made the righteousness of God.

- C. As you exercise your right to forgiveness, you maintain your right standing with God. Sin doesn't stop God from seeing you as righteous. Receiving simply allows him to wipe the slate clean, thereby cleansing us from the effects of sin.
 - 1. God may not like what I did, but I'm still right with him and when I approach him he'll tell me I need to repent of that, but I'm still the righteousness of God
- D. I'm not righteous b/c I don't commit sin, but I'm righteous because of my faith in Jesus