

Lesson 5:
The Just and Justifying God

Romans 3:21-31

Outline of Romans

- I. Doctrine of Salvation (1-8)
- II. Correlation (9-11)
- III. Evidence of Salvation (12-16)

“The Righteousness of God” in Romans 3:21-26

- 3:20 “. . .the righteousness of God. . .”
- 3:21 “. . .the righteousness of God. . .”
- 3:25 “. . .His righteousness. . .”
- 3:26 “. . .His righteousness. . .”

- 3:26 “. . .that He would be just [righteous]. . .”

What Is “the Righteousness of God”?

- A righteous standing from God.
- God’s faithfulness to His promise to one day restore blessing to mankind.
- God’s faithfulness to justly punish sin.

What Manifests the Righteousness of God?

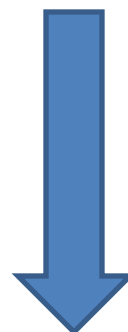
- “works of the Law” (3:20)
- “faith of Jesus Christ” (3:22)
or “faith in Jesus Christ”

What Manifests the Righteousness of God?

“works of the Law”

God's Initiative:

Law



Righteousness

Works



Man's Response:

What Manifests the Righteousness of God?

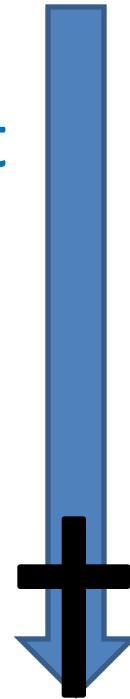
“faith in Jesus Christ”

God’s Initiative:

Jesus Christ

Man’s Response:

Faith



Righteousness

Romans 3:21-26

- A. (3:21) How the Righteousness of God
Relates to the Old Testament

- B. (3:22-24a) How the Righteousness of God
Relates to Those Who Benefit From It

- C. (3:24b-25a) How the Righteousness of God
Relates to Its Source

- D. (3:25b-26) How the Righteousness of God
Relates to God's Faithfulness to Justly
Punish Sin

Proverbs 17:15

He who justifies the wicked and he who
condemns the righteous,
Both of them alike are an abomination to the
LORD.

Romans 3:27-31

- A. (3:27-28) Justification by Faith Is Not by Works
- B. (3:29-30) Justification by Faith Is for Jews and Gentiles
- C. (3:31) Justification by Faith Establishes the Law

Matthew 5:17

Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.

Jesus' teaching brings about that for which Moses' law was ultimately intended. It expresses fully and ideally the "righteousness" anticipated at Sinai and in the prophets. The old law was not "full" in itself; it had a forward look. It anticipated a "fulfilling" which in Christ's teaching finally came to perfect realization.

-Fred G. Zaspel

“New Covenant Theology and the
Mosaic Law: A Theological and
Exegetical Analysis of Matthew 5:17-20”

www.biblicalstudies.com/bstudy/hermenutics/new_c_law.htm

Romans 8:3-4

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,

So that the righteous requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

Romans 13:8-10

Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.

For this, “You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not covet,” and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.