


Truths About The Righteousness of God

2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV

Transformation Ministries T3
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Objectives

- 1. Compare righteousness from a human and spiritual perspective.**
 - 2. Define the righteousness of God.**
 - 3. Examine the role and significance of Jesus Christ to being the righteousness of God.**
 - 4. Explore the implications of the bible's declaration of the righteousness of God to believers in Jesus Christ.**
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The Oxford dictionary defines righteousness “as the quality of being morally right or justifiable” in accordance with law and moral standards.

We often define ourselves and others from this perspective, but the bible presents a different perspective...



**We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a
polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and
our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
But we are all like an unclean thing, And all
our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We
all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the
wind, Have taken us away.**

Isaiah 64:6 ESV



**He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all
His ways are justice, A God of truth and
without injustice; Righteous and upright is
He.**

Deuteronomy 32:4 NKJV



**¹³⁷ Righteous are you, O Lord, and right
are your rules. ¹³⁸ You have appointed
your testimonies in righteousness and in
all faithfulness.**

Psalm 119:137-138 ESV



**Righteousness and justice are the
foundation of your throne; steadfast love
and faithfulness go before you.**

Psalm 89:14 ESV



**God's righteousness means that
He is perfectly holy, just, fair
and truthful in all His thoughts,
actions and decisions.**



¹⁷ The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works. ¹⁸ The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. ¹⁹ He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them. ²⁰ The Lord preserves all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.

Psalm 145:17-20 ESV

**For our sake he
made him to be
sin who knew no
sin, so that in
him we might
become the
righteousness of
God. ESV**

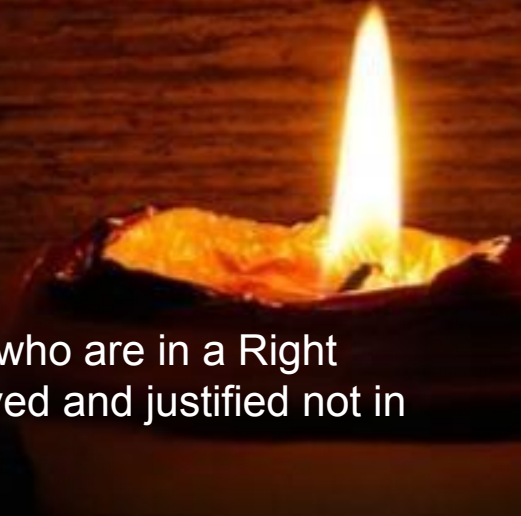
2 Corinthians 5:21

**For God made
Christ, who never
sinned, to be the
offering for our
sin, so that we
could be made
right with God
through Christ.
NLT**



The Righteousness of God is best understood as being “right with God” in terms of a right relationship with God.

Another way to view this is that the Righteousness of God are those who are in a Right relationship with God and reconciled with God; those who are approved and justified not in their own eyes, but in God's eyes.



He made Christ who knew no sin to [judicially] be sin on our behalf, so that in Him we would become the righteousness of God [that is, we would be made acceptable to Him and placed in a right relationship with Him by His gracious lovingkindness].

2 Corinthians 5:21 AMP



Atonement

The reconciliation of sinners with God through the payment of the penalty of sins by Jesus Christ on the cross.



21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:

Romans 3:21-26 ESV



²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

Romans 3:21-26 ESV



²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Romans 3:21-26 ESV



Justification

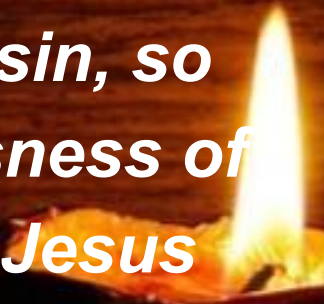
A spiritual and legal act whereby God declares unrighteous, guilty sinners to be righteous and not guilty, removes the penalty of sin, and allows us to receive God's grace.

Romans 3:21-26



Justification

We are declared justified by the grace of God through Jesus Christ (Romans 3:24), by faith in Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:24), and by the atoning blood of Jesus Christ (Romans 5:9). Moreover, God “made Him (Jesus) to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). In other words, Jesus assumed the penalty for our sins. Finally, according to Romans 8:33 (ESV), “it is God who justifies.”



**So then, the law was our guardian until
Christ came, in order that we might be
justified by faith.**

Galatians 3:24 ESV



**Since, therefore, we have now been
justified by his blood, much more shall we
be saved by him from the wrath of God.**

Romans 5:9 ESV



Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

Romans 8:33 ESV



Propitiation

Jesus Christ, in His perfect, sinless life, and His atoning and substitutionary death, satisfied God's wrath against sin; bringing reconciliation between God and humanity.

Romans 3:25-26



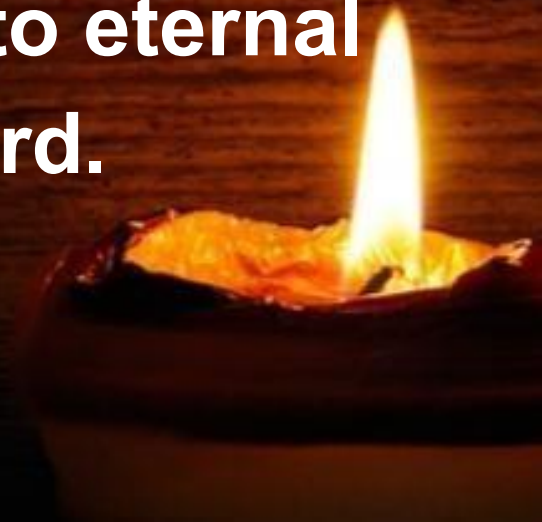
¹⁸ Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹ For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Romans 5:18-21 ESV



²⁰ Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, ²¹ so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5:18-21 ESV



**What is the significance of the
Bible declaring us to be the
Righteousness of God?**

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 ESV



17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 ESV



¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 ESV



21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 ESV



²¹ For our sake **GOD** made **JESUS CHRIST**
to be sin who knew no sin, so that in
JESUS CHRIST we might become **RIGHT**
WITH GOD.

~ 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 ESV, NLT



**How does
The Righteousness of God
apply when I sin?**



For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:19 NLT

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9 ESV

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:1 ESV



Truths about The Righteousness of God

- 1. The Righteousness of God means Being Right with God (2 Cor 5:21).**
 - 2. The righteousness of God is not earned, it is given through Grace and Faith (Rom 3:21-26, Eph 2:8-9).**
 - 3. The righteousness of God is free to you, but paid by Jesus Christ (Eph 2:8-9; Rom 5:18-21). However, discipleship has a cost (Matt 16:24).**
 - 4. As the Righteousness of God, we are ambassadors for Jesus Christ - empowered to share the good news of Jesus and help reconcile others to Christ (2 Cor 5:18-20).**
 - 5. As the Righteousness of God, our mandate is to align our thoughts and actions with our identity IN Christ. (2 Cor 5:17).**
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