

Romans 3:21-31

ReCharge Worship & Bible Study

November 19, 2025

God's Righteousness Through Faith, Verses 21-22a

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.

Lessons to learn:

- Paul is beginning to transition from “man is sinful” to “there’s an answer”
 - “The righteousness of God apart from the Law”
 - Comes through Christ’s obedience, (Romans 5:19)
 - Is imparted through union with Christ, (2 Corinthians 5:21)
 - Is received by faith, (Philippians 3:9)
 - Is not earned by works, (Ephesians 2:8-9)
 - It is available to all who believe
 - Adoption as sons and daughters, and heirs
 - Romans 8:15-17
 - Romans 5:19, *“For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of One shall many be made righteous.”*
 - 2 Corinthians 5:21, *“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”*
 - Philippians 3:9, *“...and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith.”*
- Ephesians 2:8-9, *“For by grace you are saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”*

Adoption and Heirs:

- Romans 8:15-17, *“For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ...”*

FFT: The only people who miss righteousness are those who insist on “earning” their own. Galatians 5:4, “You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.”

God's Righteousness Through Faith, Verses 22b-26

For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Lessons to learn:

- Propitiation: A sacrifice that satisfies God's wrath and restores favor
- Life is in the blood, Leviticus 17:11
"For the life of the flesh is in the blood... it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul."
- Sin brings death, Romans 6:23, "The wages of sin is death"
- Innocent life is given as a substitute for a sinful life, it covers and makes new
- Jesus is the innocent sacrifice and substitute for us, Ephesians 1:7,
"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins."

FFT: The Cross is the place where God's wrath and mercy meet, where justice and love embrace through Jesus

Boasting Excluded, Verses 27-28:

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

Lessons to learn:

- **Law = governance. The law is ordered and just**
 - **Mosaic Law is dependent on man's efforts**
 - **Law of faith is dependent on Jesus' effort**
 - **The Mosaic law is earned**
 - **The law of faith is gifted**
- **Justification = Gr: dikaioō (dee-kai-OH-oh), declared righteous before God, acquitted of guilt**
 - **Justification shows God's true heart toward us**
 - **Brings peace and assurance because we do not have to endlessly strive to measure up. It takes the worry out of being close (Hebrews 4:16)**
 - **It is once for all time (Hebrews 10:10)**
 - **We may feel guilty inside, but God says we are free**

FFT: God's verdict is not "try harder." Justification is not a reward for effort, but a gift for our faith

Boasting Excluded, Verses 29-31

Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.

Lessons to learn:

- God leaves no man behind. Don't forget that Gentile believers (us) are true Jews
- Paul anticipates a misunderstanding
 - Is the law void?
 - Yes, in that we are saved through faith, not works, Roman 10:4, "*Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.*"
 - No, in that faith fulfills the law's purpose to:
 1. Expose sin (verse 20)
 2. Show our inability to achieve righteousness apart from a Savior
 3. Lead us to Christ, Galatians 3:24, "*...the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith*"

FFT: Faith in Christ doesn't cancel God's standards found in the Law; it reveals their true purpose.

FFT: Sin is the common disease; grace is the universal cure