

MESSAGE NOTES

“Practical Teaching for Everyday Living”

EXPERIENCING THE GRACE OF GOD

Romans: The Power of the Gospel

Romans 3:21-30

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*I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for **the Jew**, then for **the Gentile**. 17 For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.” Romans 1:16-17*

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men. . . Rom. 1:18

SIN—RIGHTEOUSNESS DEMANDED — 1:18–3:20

- A. The _____ guilty—1:18–32
- B. The _____ guilty—2:1–3:8
- C. The _____ guilty—3:9–20

I. YOU NEED TO BE _____

BUT NOW a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. Romans 3:21

- We stand _____ before the Judge of the universe, but we find that he also stands beside us as our Advocate, intent on finding a way to do justice while extending mercy.
- We stand as _____ slaves under Sin’s dominion, but we find that the Sovereign God has already acted to emancipate us.
- We stand before the altar of God with _____, but there we meet the God who in Jesus Christ has acted as both our Priest and Sacrifice to provide deliverance from Sin’s tyrannical rule.

II. YOU NEED TO BE _____ by FAITH

*This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are **justified freely** by **his grace** through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. Romans 3:22-24*

“through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ to all who have faith” - Better Translation of vs 22

• UNIVERSAL _____ - SIN ABOUNDS

There is no difference, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (22b-23)

• UNIVERSAL _____ - GRACE ABOUNDS

and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. (24)

“John Wesley observes that **JUSTIFICATION** is the pardoning of our sin. It is making us righteous and just before God. It is only possible by an act of God through the atoning blood of His Son, Christ Jesus. It is not something we do for ourselves but is something God does for us. Wesley also observes justification is not a denial of truth or of God deceiving us by calling us something we are not. Rather, God recognizes the truth of what He has done for us through Christ.” Kenneth Grider

• UNIVERSAL _____

God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished — 26 he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. Romans 3:25-26

hilastērion - “a sacrifice of atonement” (NIV) , “*a propitiation*” (KJV) “*expiation*” (RSV)

• **Biblical “propitiation”** means that God has found a way to demonstrate his justice (vv 25 and 26) while extending mercy to those who have faith in Jesus (v 26). Within the community of faith, God offers sinners—those who made themselves his enemies—a place to be reconciled to God and restored to righteousness.

• **Biblical “expiation”** correctly emphasizes the affect of the atonement on humans. In Christ guilty rebels are freed from their slavery to Sin and cleansed from its defilement.

“God made him who had no sin to be a sin offering for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Cor 5:21)

III. OBJECTIONS (Romans 3:27-31)

• WHO CAN BOAST? _____ !!!!!

• No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith. (27) NLT

• WHO CAN BE SAVED? _____ WHO PUTS THEIR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

• There is only one God, and he makes people right with himself only by faith, whether they are Jews or Gentiles. (30) NLT

• THEN CAN WE FORGET ABOUT ALL THE REQUIREMENTS (LAWS, RULES)? _____ !

• *Of course not! In fact, only when we have faith do we truly fulfill the law. Rom. 3:31 (NLT)*