GRACE-POWERED LIVING

A Study of the Book of ROMANS

"... AND NOW FOR THE GOSPEL" Romans 3:21-31

April 6, 2014 | 9:15 &10:50am

Introduction: The verses we are looking at today have been described as the most important passage in the Bible. Why? These verses answer life's most important question.

I. The Reality of God's Gift (Romans 3:21-26)

A. God's Righteousness Is Offered as a <u>Gift</u> (Romans 3:21-23)

Romans 3:21-23 "²¹ But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"

B. God's Righteousness Is Based on the <u>Work</u> of Christ (Romans 3:24-26)

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1. <u>Redemption</u> (Romans 3:24)

Romans 3:24 "being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;"

2. **Propitiation** (Romans 3:25)

Romans 3:25 "whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;"

Hebrews 9:11-12 "¹¹ But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; ¹² and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption."

3. Justification (Romans 3:24, 26)



Romans, Vol. 1, Justification by Faith, James Montgomery Boice, p.382

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C. God's Righteousness Is Received through <u>Faith</u> (Romans 3:26)

Romans 3:26 "for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus."

Two Characteristics of Saving Faith

- 1. Faith demands **<u>truth</u>**
- 2. Faith demands **trust**

- II. The Results of God's Gift (Romans 3:27-31)
 - A. Demands Humility (Romans 3:27-28)

Romans 3:27 "Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith."

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B. Democratizes <u>Salvation</u> (Romans 3:29-30)

Romans 3:29-30 "²⁹ Or is God the God of Jews only? Is He not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, ³⁰ since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one."

C. Demonstrates God's <u>Justice</u> (Romans 3:31)

Romans 3:31 "Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law."

Conclusion