

# The Book of Romans

I. Paul's Introduction to his **Letter** (1:1-17)

II. Paul *Declares* Man's Need for God's Salvation and Righteousness (1:18-3:20)

A. He *Describes* how the Wrath of God is now against *all* Ungodliness and Unrighteousness of Men (1:18-32)

B. He *Denounces* those who Judge the Unrighteousness of others, yet Practice it themselves (2:1-29)

C. He *Decries* the Unrighteousness of the Jews (2:17-3:20)

III. Paul *Delivers* his **Gospel Message** of Righteousness by Faith in Messiah (3:21-5:21)

A. He *Declares* that **Righteousness** is *through* Faith in Jesus the Messiah (3:21-31)

1. A *Righteousness* that is according to Faith, *apart* from the Law (3:21-23)

<sup>21</sup> But now *apart* from the **Law** the righteousness of God has been manifested, being *witnessed* by the **Law** and the **Prophets**,

<sup>22</sup> even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus the Messiah for **all** those who **believe**; for there is **no distinction**;

<sup>23</sup> for **all** have **sinned** and **fall short** of the **glory** of God,

2. A *Righteousness* that **results** in our Justification (3:24-31)

a. Being *justified* as a **gift** according to grace (3:24a)

b. Being *justified* through the redemption provided by **Messiah** (3:24b-26)

c. Being *justified* by a "law of faith," and *not* by the **works** of the Law (3:27-31)

<sup>24</sup> being **justified** as a **gift** by **His grace** through the **redemption** which is in **Messiah Jesus**;

<sup>25</sup> 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**;

<sup>26</sup> for the **demonstration**, *I say*, of **His righteousness** at the **present time**, so that **He** would be **just** and the **justifier** of the **one** who has **faith** in **Jesus**.

<sup>27</sup> **Where** then is **boasting**? It is **excluded**. By what kind of **law**? Of **works**? **No**, but by a **law of faith**.

<sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a man is **justified by faith** **apart** from works of the **Law**.

<sup>29</sup> Or is **God the God** of **Jews only**? Is **He not the God of Gentiles also**? **Yes**, of **Gentiles also**,  
<sup>30</sup> since indeed **God** who will **justify** the **circumcised by faith** and the **uncircumcised through faith** is **one**.

<sup>31</sup> Do we then **nullify the Law through faith**? May it **never be**! On the contrary, we **establish** the **Law**.

## Message Summary

### Defining the terms of our Salvation in Messiah

- A. *What* does it mean to have “**faith in Jesus?**” (3:22, 26)  
**Faith**--“**pistis**”→ “**firm persuasion**,” a **conviction** based upon **hearing**  
To have **faith in Jesus** *means* that you **believe** in **Jesus** as **Messiah** and **Lord**, and that you **fully trust** in **Him**, and **His sacrificial death**, for **salvation**, **forgiveness of sins**, and **eternal life**.
- B. *What* is the “**Righteousness of God?**” (3:22, 25, 26)  
**Righteousness**—“**dikaioisune**”→ “the **character** or **quality** of being **right** or **just**,” **Righteousness** is the **attribute of God** that declares **Him** to be **upright**, **equitable**, and **just**. Tonight we read how that **God** “**demonstrated**” **His righteousness through** the **redeeming sacrifice** of **Jesus**. Because of this “**just**” act by **God**, we can **now receive** not only **redemption**, but also the “**gift**” of **His righteousness** (3:21-26, 5:17).

- C. *What* does it mean to be “**Justified?**” (3:24, 28)  
**Justify/Justification**—“*dikaioo/dikaiosis*”→ the *legal* and *formal* **acquittal** from **guilt** by **God as Judge**—the **pronouncement** of the **sinner** as one who is now “**righteous**” through **faith** in **Jesus**.
- D. *What* is “**Redemption?**” (3:24)  
**Redemption**—“*apolutrosis*”→to “**release**” upon **payment** of a **price**. In **Romans 3:24**, it means to **release**, or **deliver** from the **guilt** of **sins**, *through* the **ransom price** of **Messiah’s death**.
- E. *What* is “**Propitiation?**” (3:25)  
**Propitiation**—“*hilasterion*”→ the **satisfaction** of **God’s righteous demands**. **Messiah**, through the **shedding of His blood**, became our “**propitiation**,” our “**place of mercy**” (mercy-seat). **Jesus**, through **His sacrificial death**, “is the **personal means** by whom **God** shows the **mercy** of **His justifying grace** to the **sinner** who **believes**.”
- F. *What* are the “**works of the Law?**” (3:28)  
**works**—“*ergon*”→ **deeds** or **acts**. The **works of the Law** are the **deeds** and **acts** that are done to **fulfill** the **Mosaic Law**.  
 “By the **works** of the **Law** *no flesh* will be **justified**...(3:20),”  
 “for **all** have **sinned** and **fall short** of the **glory of God** (3:23).”  
 “But *now* **apart** from the **Law** *the* **righteousness of God** has been **manifested**,..  
 even *the* **righteousness of God** through **faith** in **Jesus the Messiah** (3:21-22).”

“**No one** can **stand** before a **holy God** on the **basis** of his **own efforts**, even if *those efforts* include a hearty attempt at **keeping the works of the law**.”  
 (“Got Questions Ministry”)  
 (**What are the works of the law**  
 (Romans 3:20; Galatians 2:16)?)

## Personal Application

### **“Justification”—Our “Ticket” to Glory**

But now **apart** from the **Law**  
*the righteousness of God* has been **manifested**,..  
 even *the* **righteousness of God** through **faith** in **Jesus the Messiah**

for **all** those who **believe**; for there is **no distinction**;  
for **all** have **sinned** and **fall short** of the **glory of God**,

being **justified** as a **gift** by **His grace**  
through the **redemption** which is in **Messiah Jesus**;  
(Romans 3:21-24)

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Or do you not know that the **unrighteous**  
will **not inherit** the **kingdom of God**?...

Such were **some of you**;  
but **you** were **washed**,  
but **you** were **sanctified**,  
but **you** were **justified**  
in the **name** of the **Lord Jesus the Messiah**  
and in the **Spirit** of **our God**.  
(I Corinthians 6:9a, 11)

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Therefore, having been **justified by faith**,  
we have **peace with God** through our **Lord Jesus the Messiah**,  
**through whom also** we have obtained our **introduction by faith**  
into this **grace** in which **we stand**;  
and we **exult** in **hope** of the **glory of God**. (Romans 5:1)

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For those whom **He foreknew**, **He** also **predestined**...  
and these whom **He predestined**, **He** also **called**;  
and these whom **He called**, **He** also **justified**;  
and these whom **He justified**, **He** also **glorified**.  
(Romans 8:30)

## Closing Comments