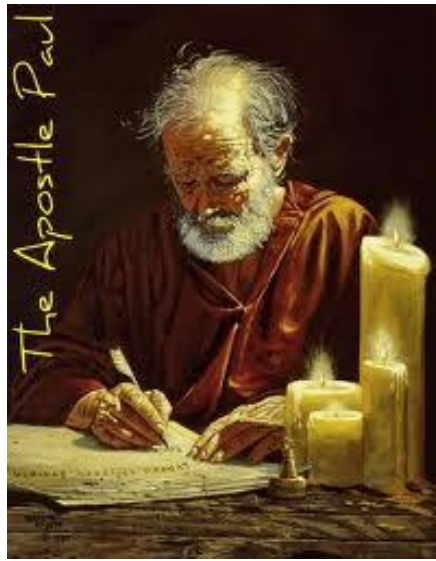
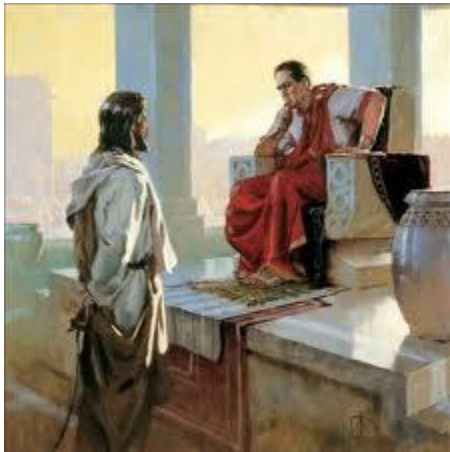




Paul's Letter to the Romans



Chapter 3: God's Righteousness by Faith



Overall Strategy of the Letter

- Show the universal failure of all men to attain to God's righteousness (1-2)
- Develop God's plan to redeem His family by faith (3-5)
- Explain our responsibility to participate in God's plan – Living by faith (6-8)
- Describe how God's election applies to Jews and Gentiles (9-11)
- Apply exhortational lessons to our walk in Christ based on God's redemptive plan, our responsibility, and God's election (12-16)

Paul is not dealing with a doctrinal controversy so he just gives a clear explanation of the Atonement



Strategy of Romans



1) The Gospel of God – Power of God to Salvation by Faith.

History shows Gentiles could not attain God's righteousness

2) History shows Jews could not attain God's righteousness and were more accountable because they had God's Law

Today.....



**In Romans 3, Paul
Introduces the
Righteousness of
God that is by Faith**

**God always intended to justify
everyone by Faith, apart from Law**

Paul anticipates Jews' questions

Romans 3:1-7

1 What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision? 2 Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God.

3 For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? 4 Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: "That You may be justified in Your words, and may overcome when You are judged." (Psa 51:4)

5 But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unjust who inflicts wrath? (I speak as a man.) 6 Certainly not! For then how will God judge the world?

7 For if the truth of God has increased through my lie to His glory, why am I also still judged as a sinner? 8 And why not say, "Let us do evil that good may come"? — as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say. Their condemnation is just.

Paul spends more time dealing with God's righteous way of handling Jews in Rom 9-11

Paul Anticipates Questions Jews will have from Rom 2

If true Jews live a special way of
life & circumcision doesn't matter....



- **What good is it to be a Jew?** What value is circumcision? (v.1)
Have Jews lost all their privileges?
- **Will the unbelief of some Jews stop God** from doing what He promised? (v.3) Has God's purpose failed because Israel failed?
- **Is God wrong to punish unbelieving Jews** if they help to demonstrate God's righteousness when they do wrong? (v.5)
- **If my lies actually prove God's truth to His glory**, why am I judged a sinner? (v.7)
- Why not say **"let us do evil that good may come?"** (v.8)
- **Are we Jews** better than others? (v.9)

Judaisers easily misrepresented Paul

Why quote Psalm 51:4 in v.4?

- David was unfaithful & confesses, but God justified him
- His justification came from outside the law



14 Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. (Ps 51:14-17 NIV)



Jews & Gentiles - None is Righteous

Romans 3:9-18

9 **What then? Are we [Jews] better than they [Gentiles]?** Not at all. For we have previously charged **both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.** *[So none are righteous without God!]*

10 **As it is written:** "There is none righteous, no, not one;
11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one."
(Ps 14:1-3) **"The fool has said in his heart, there is no God" (v.1)**

13 "Their **throat** is an open tomb; With their **tongues** they have practiced deceit"; (Ps 5:9)

"The poison of asps is under their **lips**"; (Psa 140:3)

14 "Whose **mouth** is full of cursing and bitterness." (Psa 10:7)

15 "Their **feet** are swift to shed blood; 16 Destruction and misery are in their ways; 17 And the way of peace they have not known." (Isa 59:7-8)

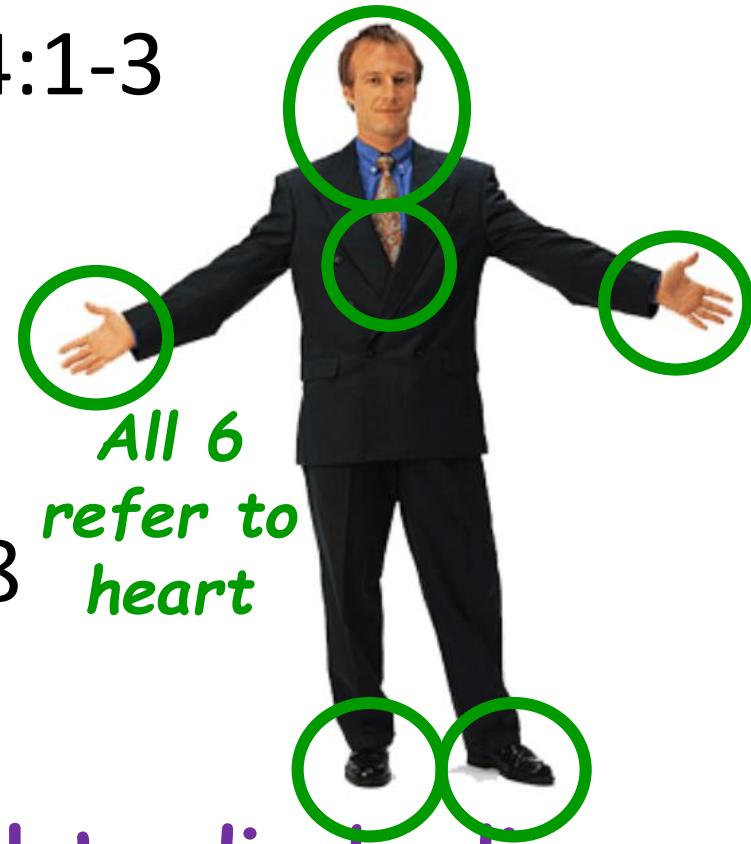
18 "There is no fear of God before their **eyes**." (Psa 36:1)

All these passages condemned the Jews

O.T. proof that all are under Sin.... (v.9)

Note the references to body parts

- vs 10-12 from Psalm 14:1-3
- v.13a from Psalm 5:9
- v.13b from Psalm 140:3
- v.14 from Psalm 10:7
- vs 15-17 from Isa 59:7-8
- v.18 from Psalm 36:1



God has confined them all to disobedience
that he may have mercy on all (11:32)

No one is good but God alone

Psalm 14

1 **The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."** They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none who does good.

2 The Lord looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God.

3 **They have all turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is none who does good, No, not one.**

4 Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge, who eat up **my people** as they eat bread, and do not call on the Lord?

5 There they are in great fear, **for God is with the generation of the righteous.** *[this is what makes them righteous!]*

6 You shame the counsel of the poor, but **the Lord is his refuge.**

7 Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When the Lord brings back the captivity of His people, let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.

We become righteous only if God is with us

Even the Law witnessed by revealing sin

Romans 3:19-20

19 Now we know that **whatever the law says**, it says to those who are under the law, **that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.** 20 Therefore **by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.**

God never intended the Law to justify anyone!

Purpose of the Law (19-20)



- Every mouth may be stopped
- All the world may become guilty before God
- By deeds of law [any law] no flesh will be justified (v.20 and Gal 3:11)
- By the law is the knowledge of sin

GOD

- 1: Do not worship any other gods
- 2: Do not make any idols
- 3: Do not misuse the name of God
- 4: Keep the Sabbath holy

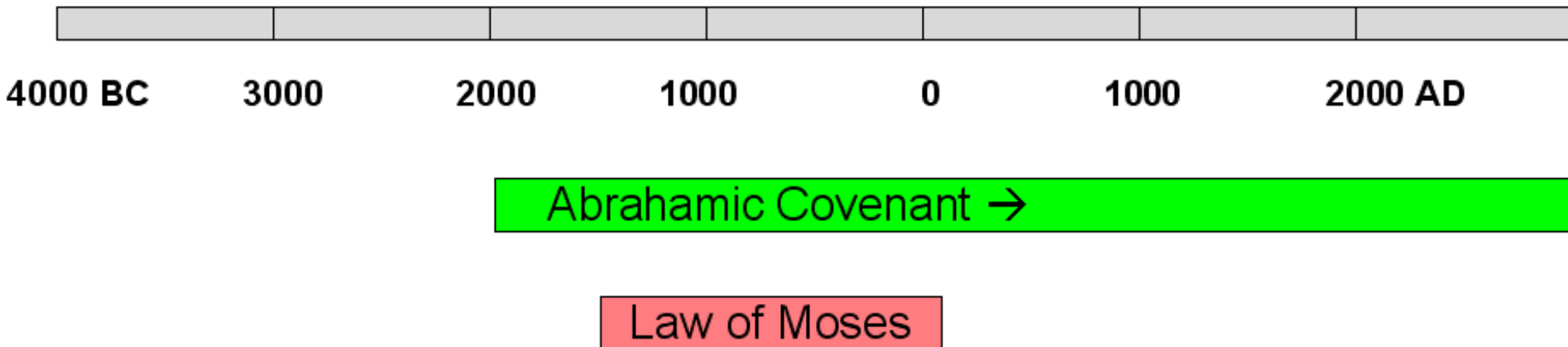
MAN

- 5: Honour your father & mother
- 6: Do not murder
- 7: Do not commit adultery
- 8: Do not steal
- 9: Do not lie
- 10: Do not covet

It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. (Gal 3:19)

We conclude that a man is justified by faith, apart from the deeds of the law (Rom 3:28)

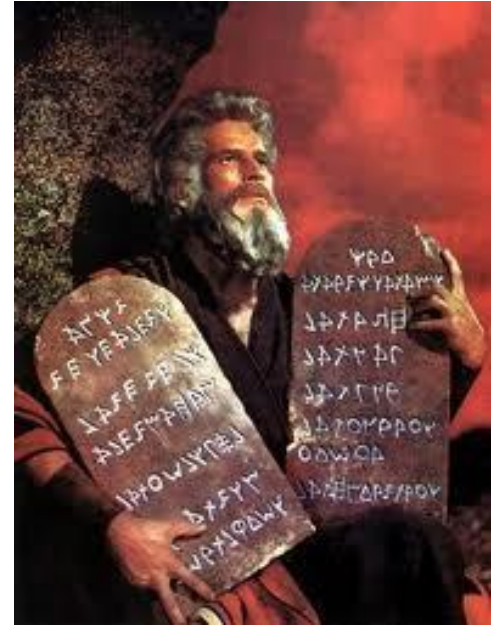
The Law cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God (Gal 3:17)



The Law was only a temporary tutor (guardian) until the reality of Christ had come

Purpose of the Law – Gal 3:19-25 (TNIV)

19 What, then, was the purpose of the law? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was given through angels and entrusted to a mediator (Moses). 20 A mediator, however, implies more than one party; but God is one.



The Promise was given directly
to Abraham – no mediator



Angel



Moses



**The
mediation
of the
Law
(Gal 3:19)**



One Family in Christ Jesus



**Both the one who makes men holy
and those who are made holy are
of the same family. Heb 2:11 NIV**

**You are all one in
Christ Jesus. Gal 3:28**

**If what you heard from the
beginning abides in you, you also
will abide in the Son and in the
Father. 1 John 2:24-25**

Purpose of the Law

Gal 3:19-25 (TNIV)



21 Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. 22 But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.

Law was not designed to give life

Purpose of the Law – Gal 3:19-25 (TNIV)

23 **Before the coming of this faith**, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. 24 So the law was put in charge of us (our tutor) **until Christ came that we might be justified by faith.** 25 Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.



Law kept people under control until Christ came

God's Righteousness Revealed

Romans 3:21-26

21 But now **the righteousness of God** apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 **even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe [have faith].** For there is no difference; 23 **for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,** 24 **being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,** 25 whom God set forth *[publicly]* **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, 26 to demonstrate at the present time **His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus [“faith of Jesus” (GK)].**

God took responsibility to provide redemption

Righteousness of God (v.21-22)

- Is now revealed
- Apart (without) from the law - outside the law & can't be earned
- Law & prophets witness to this
- Comes by the faith of Jesus Christ
- To all who believe (have the faith of Jesus)
- There is no difference – only one righteousness
- All sinned and fell short of God's glory



**God provided one solution
for everyone's problem!**



Law witnessed both positively & negatively



- **Sin offering** covered very little (Lev 4-5)
- **Only red heifer** had multiple uses (Num 19)
 - Offered by high priest elect
 - Cleansed from contact with human death
- **No Lamb for sin offering**
- Sin offering **could not be eaten by priests** if blood taken into the Most Holy
- **Daily sin offering** – complete dedication
- **Serpent on the pole** – *anyone* who looks
- **Mercy Seat** – hidden in Most Holy place
- **Office of King & Priest** was kept separate



**Law testified of its weaknesses
& God's coming righteousness**

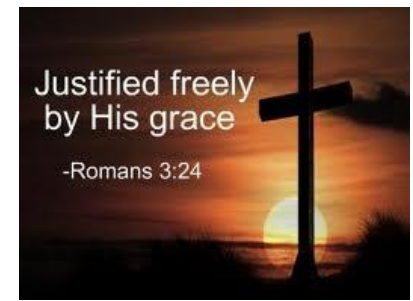
Prophets witnessed



- **Hab 2** Just will live by faith
- **Zech 6:13** King & priest
- **Deut 29-30** Another covenant besides Horeb
- **Isa 59:16** no man, no intercessor, so His own arm brought salvation, His righteousness...
- **Jer 33:16** Jerusalem's new name: "The Lord our Righteousness"
- **Dan 9:24** to bring in everlasting righteousness

**It was added because of transgressions
until the Seed to whom the promise
referred had come. (Gal 3:19)**

Our Justification (24-26)

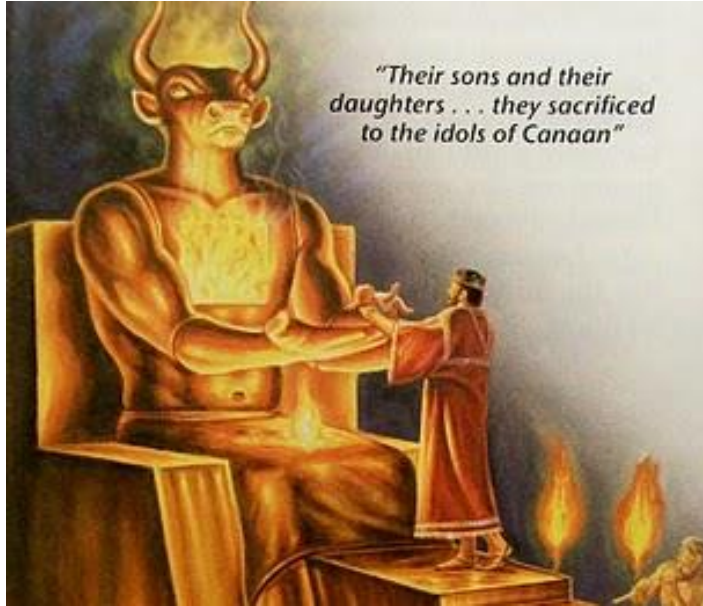


- **Freely** by God's **grace** (Hos 14:4)
- **Through the redemption** that came by Jesus
- **God displayed publicly** as a propitiation by his blood, through faith
- **This was God's sacrifice** (Ex 23:18), foreshadowed by the Passover
- **In His forbearance** He passed over former sins (Heb 9:15)
- **Demonstrate God's righteousness** & that He is just & the justifier of those **who have the faith of Jesus**



God can justify anyone who has the faith of Jesus

Paul destroys the Pagan & Jewish ideas of Sacrifice



Pagans thought God needed a sacrifice to appease His wrath.

Jews thought they had to sacrifice to prove their righteousness to God





God provided a Sacrifice



Exodus 23:18

18 "You shall not offer the blood of **My sacrifice** with leavened bread; nor shall the fat of My sacrifice remain until morning.



God gave His
Son & We
must respond
to His
gracious gift!



We must have the right perspective

Which one pleased God?

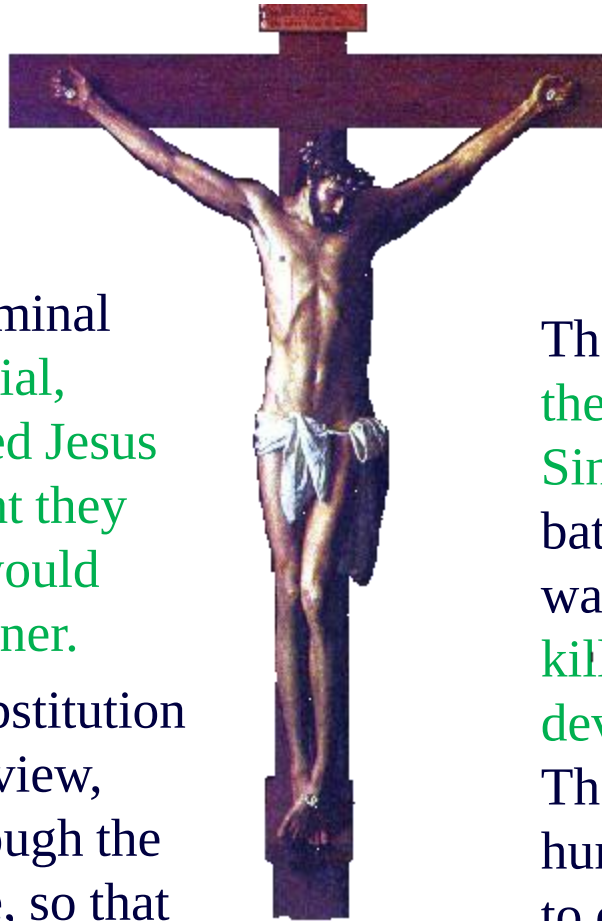
The Romans
and Jews
tortured &
killed Jesus
because they
thought he
deserved it



Jesus killed
the Devil
(the power of
Sin) to show
us God's right
way to live

Which one has the power to change your life?

Different Viewpoints of the Cross



The People:

They judged Christ as a criminal who **deserved to die a judicial, violent death.** They punished Jesus with crucifixion and thought they were treating him as God would have punished a terrible sinner.

Christianity has built its substitution doctrine from this point of view, thinking God put Jesus through the punishment sinners deserve, so that sinners won't have to be punished. The churches present Jesus as an innocent victim who died only for us in obedience to God.

The Power of Faith in Jesus

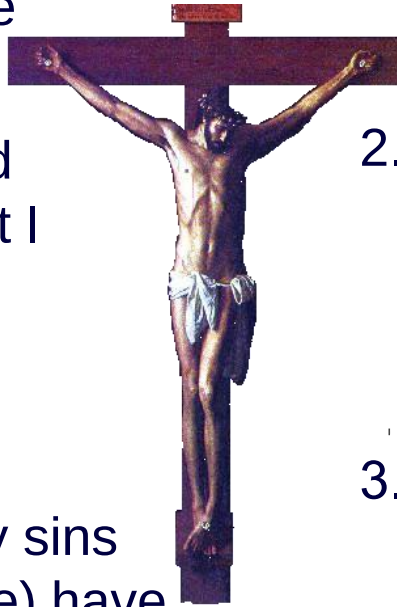
God & Christ:

They look on the cross as **the complete destruction of Sin.** They finished the moral battle against Sin that Jesus was fighting everyday, by **killing the cause of sin (the devil) in the body of Jesus.** They **judged the devil** human nature, condemned it to death, and then killed it. **This was God's declaration of righteousness – it showed us how to live!**

Jesus Christ is our Representative

Substitution

1. Jesus died in my place as my substitute, instead of me
2. Jesus took my place and suffered the punishment I deserve
3. Therefore, I can escape punishment since all my sins (past, present and future) have been borne away by Christ



Representation:

1. Jesus died to redeem himself, as my representative (as one of us)
2. Jesus was not suffering anyone's punishment. He willingly died to show me that Sin must be conquered and put to death to do God's will.
3. Therefore, I must follow Christ's example, put to death my evil desires, and live for God.

**Representation motivates us to
join Christ in a death like his**

Propitiation (v.25)

- **Used in Greek language before 200AD** for “a gift that generates peace” or “gifts that soothe”. Pagans used this to describe their gifts to their gods to bring them peace
- **Used in LXX** sometimes for the mercy seat and in Heb 9:5
- **Paul uses this to describe God's gift** to mankind in the giving of His Son to reconcile us to God and bring peace

**Note how Paul uses
“gift” in Rom 5**



**God's
Righteousness**



God's Gift brings Peace



Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, having been **justified by faith**, we have **peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have **access by faith into this grace** in which we stand, and **rejoice in hope** of the glory of God.

Romans 5:16

the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in **justification**.



God's gift of righteousness, given by His grace, can end the enmity & put us at peace with Him

Peace: Eph 2:14-16



14 **For He Himself is our peace**, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, **thus making peace, 16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.**

God made peace through Christ's death & reconciled us to Him

Jesus was saved by Faith

To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness:
that he might be just, and the justifier of *him*
which believeth in Jesus. [KJV]



declaring him righteous who is
of the faith of Jesus. [YLT]

the justifier of the one who is
of the faith of Jesus [NASBmg]

Bible translators didn't understand
Jesus had faith (Heb 12:1)

Everyone is saved by faith



Romans 4:12, 16



12 and the father of circumcision
those who not only are of the
circumcision, but who also **walk in the steps of the
faith which our father Abraham had** while still
uncircumcised.

16 Therefore it is of faith that it might be
according to grace, so that the promise might be
sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the
law, but also to **those who are of the faith of
Abraham**, who is the father of us all.

Abraham had the faith of Jesus

God justifies those who have the faith of Jesus

Rom 4:16

τῷ	ἐκ	πίστεως	Ἀβραάμ,	
to that	of	the	faith	of Abraham;
<u>3588</u>	<u>1537</u>	<u>9999</u>	<u>4102</u>	<u>11</u>
toó	ek	písteoos	Abraám	

Rom 3:26

τὸν	ἐκ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ.		
of him	which	believeth	in Jesus.
<u>3588</u>	<u>9999</u>	<u>1537</u> <u>4102</u>	<u>2424</u>
tón	ek písteoos Ieesoú		

Peace: Col 1:19-22



19 For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, 20 and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, **having made peace through the blood of His cross.**

21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet **now He has reconciled 22 in the body of His flesh through death**, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight

God made peace through Christ's death & reconciled us to Him

God's Atonement



God can justify sinners
in His mercy when they
have the faith of Jesus



**Christ's public death was
foreshadowed in the law
at the mercy seat**

**But it was
hidden in the
Most Holy Place**



"Where I will meet with you" (Ex 30:6)



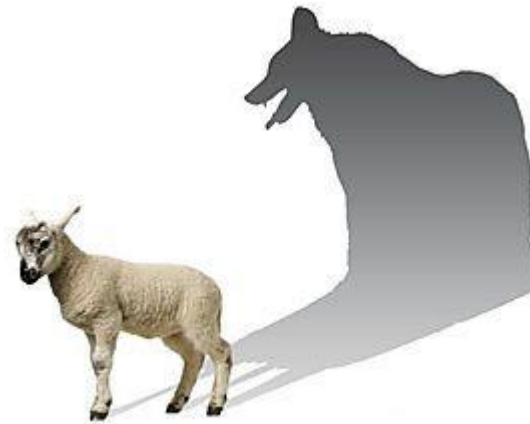


The hidden mercy seat



- **Place where ritual atonement** was made based on God's grace & mercy – “there I will meet with you” (Ex 25:22)
- **Life-blood entered once a year** (worshippers offered eternal fellowship with God)
- **Most never saw God's mercy seat:** only one person could go in

The shadow of the Law



The publicly revealed Righteousness of God

“the just will live by faith”



- **The place where real atonement** was made by God's grace and mercy
- **Accomplished by the precious blood of Christ** when he laid down his life & put Sin to death
- **Takes all his family** into eternal fellowship with God
- **Everyone is invited** to witness this public demonstration of God's righteousness
- **“We may come boldly** to the throne of grace” (4:16)

“that he may run who reads it”
(Hab 2:2)

How is God declared Righteous?



- By a sinless man taking the punishment due to sinners? **No!**
- By a sinless man dying a violent death so God's wrath will be appeased & sinners can be free? **No!**
- By a sinless man willingly laying down his life so his body of Sin will be destroyed & God declared right? **Yes!**

When we join Christ in his death to Sin, we also condemn Sin and declare God righteous (Rom 6)





Paul builds on this in Rom 6

5 For if we have been **united together in the likeness of His death**, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that **our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.** 7 For he who has died has been freed from sin. 8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, 9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. 10 **For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all;** but the life that He lives, He lives to God. 11 Likewise you also, **reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin,** but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.





Paul expands this idea in Rom 8:1-3 to show how we have been set free from slaves of Sin, to live in God's family

There is therefore now **no condemnation** to those who are **in Christ Jesus**, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For **what the law could not do** in that it was weak through the flesh, **God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh**

**God condemned Sin in the
Flesh of His Son**



God will justify by faith

Romans 3:27-31

27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. 29 Or **is He the God of the Jews only?** Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, 30 since **there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith** *[through that same faith – NIV]*. 31 Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.

God only ever had one way to justify

So is there any grounds for boasting about what we do?

- **Eliminated** – by law of faith
- **Paul's conclusion:** We are justified by faith – not works of law
- **There is only one God** – He will save everyone (Jews & Gentiles) by faith
- **Does this nullify the law?** – no, this upholds the law because obedience that comes from faith was the goal of the law all along!



**Obedience that comes
from faith (1:5)**

Our Faith must work through Love

Galatians 5:4-6

4 You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace. 5 For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working [*“energized”*] through love.

God did everything for us out of Love and we must respond by working in His Family

Next Class.....



In Romans 4, Paul provides O.T. support for his gospel of salvation by faith by using two examples of highly respected faithful men were not saved by works of law



Remember who ???

Lessons from This Class

- Thank God that He provided the gift of His Son so He could righteously grant sinners mercy.
- God developed in Jesus the faith that leads to obedience and He can do it in us too
- God never intended anyone to be justified by works of Law, it was always about faith
- Our works must be motivated by faith in God's ability and willingness to work in our lives

