

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD?

Your Sins Perfectly Paid For

Romans 4:1-8

Our text today emphasizes our right standing before a holy God yet again, but this time with an emphasis on us not working, but rather trusting the God who works.

What is the “righteousness of God?”

To answer this, we will need to dive into our text a bit more.

Abraham

He believed God and it was credited to Him as righteousness. What does this mean?

1. His faith made him righteous? NO! His faith would then be a work!
2. Somehow his faith brought him into or under righteousness.

Abraham simply trusted God who justifies the wicked. Do you understand that? He trusts that God will make us right before Him. Paul says it this way in *Ephesians 2:3-10*.

Further on in Romans we read this. *Romans 5:6-8*

David

Psalm 32 quote

If David is speaking of this righteousness too, we have some interesting things to note about the righteousness. Righteousness according to this passage is:

1. Having your transgressions forgiven.
2. Having your sins covered.
3. Never having your sins counted against you.

The sins are the issue in every case. Righteousness is having a sinless perfection because all of our sins are perfectly covered or forgiven!

Possible Solution

Could it be that righteousness is not having your sins counted against you? Is that what this passage is saying? Since Abraham did not work for this (and neither did David), it seems likely. While their works would only condemn them, because of Christ taking on their sin and the resulting wrath, His work for them means they are free from condemnation.

The Point

When we have our sins forgiven, it makes us right before God. What causes us to be separated from God is the sins that we commit. If those are removed or covered, we are acceptable to Him.

So What?

You should not be trying to earn anything from God. If you are, you are forgetting God's righteousness. We have a tendency toward confidence in our own works. We must reflect on our sinfulness to be reminded of His forgiveness.

Enter boldly into His presence! *Hebrews 10:19-25*

Since we are not seeking to gain anything else from Him, we can freely serve others.