

Provided Righteousness Explained Romans 3:21-31

I. Introduction

- A. This is the **HEART** of the Gospel – (see I Cor. 15:3-4 - history)
- B. “**BUT NOW...**” Marks a great transition; (cf. Eph. 2:11-13; I Cor. 15:16-20).
- C. Notice the word “**RIGHTEOUSNESS**” (v. 21, 22, 25, 26)
- D. Notice variations of the word “**JUSTIFY**” (v. 24, 26, 28, 30)
- E. The transliteration : *dikaioσune* – righteousness, *dikaioo* – justify. Notice the same root of the word. It is the root of the word that carries the meaning.

II. Outline

A. Righteousness Provided (v. 21-22)

1. This **righteousness** is of God – **a gift from God**
2. This is **NOT** the righteousness that designates God’s character. This will be discussed later (v.25, 26).
3. “**Without the LAW.**” Absolutely apart from the law!
4. “Is **witnessed** to by the LAW.”
 - a. The **LEVITICAL SACRIFICIAL LAW** pointed to it.
 - b. The **PROPHETS** spoke about it (Is. 53:6)
5. Is manifested – completed in the past AND having **EVERLASTING EFFECTS**
6. “Which is by FAITH in Christ” – **emphasis on CHRIST!!!**
7. The **SCOPE** - “**Unto ALL**” available to all.
8. The **CONDITION** : “Those That believe”

B. Righteousness Needed (v.23)

1. **“THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE”** – anyone who does NOT have the righteousness of GOD is a candidate for this GIFT. I.e. ALL.
2. “All come short” – present tense - **CONTINUOUSLY FALLING SHORT.**

C. Righteousness Bestowed (v. 24)

1. Being JUSTIFIED – **DECLARING** a man righteous – NOT MADE RIGHTEOUS!!!!
2. Freely – We did not pay for it AT ALL!!! **FOR NOTHING!!!**
3. By His Grace – unmerited favor: **G.R.A.C.E.**
4. Redemption – **TO BE SET FREE!!!!**
 - a. Set free from the **PENALTY** of sin (**SALVATION**)
 - b. Set free from the **POWER** of sin (**SANCTIFICATION**)
 - c. Set free from the **PRESENCE** of sin (**GLORIFICATION**)

D. Righteousness Declared (25-26)

- A. **PROPITIATION** – cf. I J 2:2; I J 4:10; He 9:5 (**MERCY SEAT**) Same GREEK word!!! DEF.: The satisfaction of the holiness and wrath of God toward our SIN.”
- B. **“REMISSION** of sins that are past” – OT sins. God **“WINKED”** at old sins until Christ (Act 17:30), See He. 10:4: **“Bulls and Goats could not take away sins.”**
- C. **GOD’S RIGHTEOUSNESS** is cleared and vindicated through the cross of Christ.

E. Conclusion – three questions (v. 27-31)

1. Where is boasting (v.27) ? – There is **NONE** (Tit.3:5)
2. Is he the God of the Jews only (v.29)? NO, both of **JEWS & GENTILES.**
3. Do we make void the law through faith (v. 31)? NO – Christ’s vicarious death **SATISFIES THE HOLY DEMANDS OF THE LAW.**

Therefore: ROMANS 12:1-2

Ro 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.