

November 15, 2020

**"ALL" By Faith Alone in Christ Alone! (part 3)  
In the New Testament!  
Romans 1:16-17, Galatians 2:15-21**

**All Scripture English Standard Version unless noted!**

**Romans 1:16-17** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. **17** For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

**Galatians 2:15-21** We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; **16** yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

**17** But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! **18** For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. **19** For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. **20** I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. **21** I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose. We see clearly that salvation is by "faith alone" We see that the offer of salvation is to "all" men without distinction

In these and other texts we see that "faith alone in Christ alone" leads to sanctification and the living a life of faith

Today "faith alone in Christ alone"

Next week, the righteous will live by faith

**Today, the "righteousness of God" revealed in the NT!**

**Our righteousness comes by "faith alone, in Christ alone"**

We will not spend a lot of time here but I want you to see clearly from the text that our salvation is in faith in Christ alone with nothing added to it

1. It is not faith plus works
2. It is not faith plus the ordinances (this case circumcision)
3. It is not faith plus keeping the law

It is faith in God alone and the work of His Son Jesus Christ that was finished on the cross, no +s

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Gospel-the good news

It is God's "power" that saves those who believe

No distinction

Then look at v17

"righteousness of God"

1. Three times in Romans this righteousness has reference to God's attribute of "justice", Romans 3:5,25,26

2. Five times it is in reference to the "righteousness of God" imputed to all who believe in His Son  
**Romans 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."**

"the righteousness of God"

An important phrase that has been the subject of intense debate

It most likely means primarily "righteousness from God"

It is a right standing before God (a legal reality) that is given to people by God

Romans 10:5 and Philipians 3:9 bear the same meaning and likely Romans 3:21-22 and 2

Corinthians 5:21 bear the same meaning

However, the expression in Greek (*dikaïosynē theou*, "the righteousness of God") carries an additional, fuller meaning, which refers directly to God's right moral character, particularly manifested in his holiness and justice, and in the way that his method of saving sinners through Christ's death meets the just demand of his holy nature

It is the righteousness of God and His character

The righteousness of Christ that He earned in His life

The righteousness of Christ that we are clothed with

**Romans 3:21-26 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received**

by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

**Romans 10:3** For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.

3. This "righteousness" is apart from works of keeping the law

**Galatians 3:7-14** Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." 9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." 11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." 12 But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them." 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"— 14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

**Romans 3:28** For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

4. This "righteousness" is not our own but becomes  
Ours

We have already seen in Romans 3:24 that this  
righteousness is called a gift and again

**Pilippians 3:9 And be found in him, not having a  
righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but  
that which comes through faith in Christ, the  
righteousness from God that depends on faith.**

**2 Corinthians 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin  
who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the  
righteousness of God.**

Here we see that the one who knew no sin is Jesus  
Christ (v. 20) and that he (God) made him (Christ)  
to be sin

This means that God the Father made Christ to be  
regarded and treated as "sin" even though Christ  
himself never sinned

Not only that but God did this for our sake—that is,  
God regarded and treated "our" sin (the sin of all  
who would believe in Christ) as if our sin belonged  
not to us but to Christ himself

**1 Peter 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on  
the tree, that we might die to sin and live to  
righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.**

Die to sin and live to righteousness next week

In becoming sin "for our sake," Christ became our  
substitute—that is, Christ took our sin upon himself  
and, as our substitute, thereby bore the wrath of  
God (the punishment that we deserve) in our place  
("for our sake")

Thus the technical term substitutionary atonement—  
that Christ has provided the atoning sacrifice as  
"our" substitute, for the sins of all who believe  
Did you see all of this in Is 53?

"surely he has born our griefs" (Isa. 53:4)

"He was crushed for our iniquities" (Isa. 53:5)

"the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isa. 53:6)

"he shall bear their iniquities" (Isa. 53:11)

"he bore the sin of many" (Isa. 53:12)

In a precise fulfillment of this prophecy, Christ became "sin" for those who believe in him, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God

5. This "righteousness" is the gift of God

**Romans 5:17 For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.**

**Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.**

6. This "righteousness" is received by "faith alone in Christ alone"

Faith in Christ alone and His work alone

1. Kept the law for His people and was perfect in His obedience to His Father
2. Paid the sin penalty for His people
3. Has bestowed His resurrection power on His to live a sanctified life

Tom did a great job with this a couple of weeks ago so we will only review

The parables of Jesus taught "faith alone, in Christ alone"

**Luke 18:9-14** He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: 10 "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Hear the repeated use of the word "I"

His prayer asks for nothing but recognition of his works and his own accomplishments

What is his faith in? In himself and his goodness

For the self-identified sinner—he has "NO" faith in himself

He says I deserve death, hell and punishment

I pray that God might be merciful to me

His only faith is in the mercy and grace of God

His form and request in his prayer is one of begging not requesting or demanding

He is a humbled man who understands both God and mankind

Other teachings of Jesus regarding a faith that saves are as follows:

**Luke 7:50** **ESV** - And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

**Matthew 9:22** **ESV** - Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well.

**Mark 10:52 ESV - And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.**

Remember Tom spoke of the Centurion of great faith?

Telling Jesus he could just speak the word of healing and the Centurion's servant will be healed so Jesus need not come all the way to the Centurion's home. Why did the Centurion not want Jesus in his home? Same as the tax collector not willing to lift his eyes toward heaven.

They did not see themselves worthy.

Both of these men are commended for their faith.

The Centurion, a gentile and captor over the Jewish people, confesses he is not worthy for Jesus to enter his home.

**Matthew 8:7-10 ESV - Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him. 8 But the centurion replied, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. 9 For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." 10 When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith.**

What did Jesus marvel at? His Faith.

Then Jesus clearly teaches what that faith results in and what the lack of faith likewise results in.

**Matthew 8:11-12 I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, 12 while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer**

**darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."**

Let's conclude with one more look at Romans 1:17

**Romans 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."**

**from faith for faith** "From faith to faith"

From the faith of the OT to the faith of the NT

From a lesser faith to a greater faith, a faith

increasing to perfection

Paul does not say from faith to works, or from works to faith

He does say from faith to faith, in other words only by faith

The gospel reveals the righteousness of God to be from faith to faith

Begun, continued and accomplished entirely by faith

**Romans 3:28 For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.**

**Romans 9:30-10:4** What shall we say, then? That

**Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; 31**

**but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. 32**

**Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, 33 as it is written,**

**"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense;**

**and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."**

**10:1** Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. **2** For I bear them

witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. **3** For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their

**own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.**

So what are we really putting our confidence in for our salvation?

It is solely, "Sola's", alone, something we might do

Is it our goodness or our works?

We can only be saved by the works or Christ!

The safest thing to do is to put our entire hope in what Christ has done and our faith and confidence totally in Him and His works

A faith that leads to a changed life

Next, the "righteousness" will live by faith