

“ALL” By Faith Alone in Christ Alone!
**“The righteous shall live by faith; how does it
happen?” “But God!”**
Romans 1:17, Galatians 2:20

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

We have clearly seen that salvation is by “faith
alone”

We have seen 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

“the righteous shall live by faith”

Last week was, “what does that look like”?

Today we will add to our reoccurring themes of what
the life of faith will look like!

1. The Word of God will play a key role

**John 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is
truth.**

2. Obedience to God’s Word will become a priority

3. Love for God’s Word, love for obedience to God’s
Word, love for His church, His people and for
others will be a defining characteristic

4. We will be engaged in the home spiritually and in
the local church advancing God’s kingdom

5. There will be an all out effort to produce fruit of
holiness and righteousness in our lives

Nest week, what goes into that all out effort!

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."

Galatians 2:20 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.

Today "the righteous shall live by faith"

How does this happen?

Last week we looked at the implication, the righteous will live a changed life

We looked at what "the righteous shall live by faith" looks like from the Scripture

Those that have true faith will reveal it by their works and their fruit

The fruit of righteousness and holiness

The fruit of a radically "reoriented" life

How do we go from having no interest in the things of God?

How do we go from it all being about me to it being all about Christ and others, (especially or spouses, children and church members)?

How do we go from not being a person of the Book to making this "the" Book?

How do we go from having no interest in church to making the church the hub in which we and our families live their lives and raise their kids?

How does it happen? I am glad you asked!

Let me tell you... the miracle and mystery of regeneration takes place!

Let's look at this miracle this morning

***Let's look at our state or condition before
"regeneration"!***

Ephesians 2:1-10 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

In verses 1–3 we see that mankind was dead, disobedient, demonic, and destined for destruction. We were prodigals, scoundrels, vile, impure, unholy, treacherous, lecherous, self-absorbed, self-exalting, out-and-out rebels.

Romans 3:10-12 as it is written:

"None is righteous, no, not one;

11 no one understands;

no one seeks for God.

12 All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;

no one does good,

not even one."

That's the bad news!

All of this is a product of

Genesis 2:15-17 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—

Ephesians 2:4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 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. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Remember what the Reformers said, "Faith that justifies, saving faith is never alone"

But God!

And then the good news!

Verses 4–5 Tells us the good news

"But God!" We were dead, but God made us alive in Christ

The following is gleaned from the ESV Gospel Transformation Bible

"We were not strugglers in need of a helping hand or sinking swimmers in need of a raft; we were stone-cold dead—spiritually lifeless, without a religious pulse, without anything to please God

But he loves the loveless, gives life to the lifeless, and is merciful to those deserving no mercy

There is no "can do" in the "it is the finished" work of Christ"

We are saved by faith alone, not because of any works

What's more, faith itself is a gift

Faith is not the ultimate good deed that saves us but the instrumental cause of our salvation—grace flows through the channel of faith, but the channel is itself of God's construct

We are saved by Christ; faith simply acknowledges and rests upon who he is and what He provides and what He has done

Because salvation is entirely by the grace of God, we ought never to boast of our spiritual insights or accomplishments

Instead we should rest in Christ our righteousness, our holiness, and our redemption

Continuing to draw from the GTB remember again the Reformers, faith alone justifies, but, the Reformers would say, the faith that justifies is never alone

Good works are not the root of our redemption, but they are the necessary fruit

If God has prepared good deeds beforehand, we must consider how and where we will walk today in order to fulfill his eternal purposes for us in Christ"

With this bad situation, what happened?

There are some hints in Genesis and throughout the OT about a Savior to come but it really begins to be revealed in the prophets 700 years before Christ that God was about to do something new

Jeremiah 31:31-33 "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke,

though I was their husband, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Ezekiel 36:24-27 I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. 25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. 26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

But God!
God stepped in
Took us from the devil
Cleansed us with the precious blood of His own Son
Wrote His law on our minds
Put His law in our heart
Gave us a new heart and spirit
And put Himself in us through His Holy Spirit

What can we do?
If we have saving faith and we see Christ in and
working in us we say thank you Lord
We do all we can to grow in the grace of the Lord
We seek to be more righteous and holy every day
We live for His glory

If we see little or no evidence of Christ in us
No reoriented life, no move toward holiness
If we are still self-centered and self-righteous
Here is what we can do! Turn to.....

Luke 18:9-14,

We admit our lost-ness and need for a Savior!
We seek Jesus and cry out for Him to save us

Jeremiah 29:11-13 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

Next week more "but God"