

XII. How Christ Died for God

A. God's Righteousness Revealed - vs 25b-26

1. The Contrast between God and gods

a. God is Righteousness / Justification

i. same Greek root word

ii. basic meaning relates to what is just and right

b. Pagan gods

i. made in the likeness of men with the same moral deficiencies and frailties

ii. Only difference is their presumed power

iii. Greek and Roman gods were

- always competing with one another, jealous of each other and of humans

- demonstrated unusual intelligence, skill, and power

- some expected high moral standards, but were grossly immoral

2. How could God allow an innocent one to suffer for the guilty?

a. He not only allowed it, but Planned it before the foundation of the world - Isa 53:5; Da 9:26; Ac 3:17-18; Re 13:8

b. The Demonstration of God's Righteousness

i. forbearance of passed over past sins - vs 25

- **anochē** - self-restraint, tolerance, **forbearance**.

-He was not unaware nor does He condone the smallest sin

-shows His patient and loving grace - 2 Pe 3:9

- **parenesis** - praetermission (omission), **toleration**, remission. - Ac 13:38-39; 17:30; Heb 9:15

-He provided one to take the punishment - Ps 78:38-39

-even for those who would crucify His own Son of which we all share the guilt - Heb 6:6

ii. To justify the guilty w/o breaking His righteous rules - vs 26

- at the present time

-general revelation - Ro 1:20

-the ultimate revelation - the incarnation, death, and resurrection of Christ

- that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

-written w/o understanding - Ps 85:10

-problem with salvation - getting a Holy God to accept sinful man w/o violating His Justice

B. God's Grace Exalted - vs 27-28

1. Man's complete inability to come to God

a. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. - Ro 2:17,23

i. the power of salvation is in the cross

ii. God's choice as opposed to man's credit - 1 Co 1:26-29

b. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. - Ro 4:2; Eph 2:9

2. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

- Ac 13:38-39; Ro 3:20-22; 8:3; Ga 2:16

a. What doesn't prove saving faith

i. Visible morality - Mt 19:16-22 - the rich young ruler

ii. Intellectual knowledge - Ro 2:17,23-24 - the Jews

iii. Religious Involvement - the foolish virgins - Mt 25:1-13

iv. Active Ministry - "Lord, Lord" - Mt 7:21-23

v. Conviction of Sin - demon possessed, freed, and then - Mt 12:43-45

- vi. Assurance of Salvation - Mt 7:21-23; Jas 1:22
- vii. The experience of past decisions for Christ - salvation is not an event
- b. What does prove saving faith
 - i. Love for God
 - natural man - enmity against God - Ro 8:7
 - Whom have I in Heaven but thee - Ps 73:25
 - ii. Repentance and Hatred of Sin
 - impossible to serve two masters - Mt 6:24
 - Confession and forsaking - Pro 28:13; 51; 2 Co 7:9; 1 Jo 1:8-9
 - iii. Genuine Humility - denying self and taking up his cross - Mt 16:24
 - iv. Devotion to God's Glory - life or death - Phi; 1:20
 - v. Prayer - Abba Father - Ga 4:6
 - vi. Selfless Love - for the brethren - 1 Jo 2:9-10; 3:14; 4:7-8
 - vii. Separation from the world - 1 Co 2:12; 1 Jo 2:15-16; 5:4-5
 - viii. Spiritual Growth - parable of the soils - 30/60/100 fold - Mt 13:23
 - ix. Obedient Living - Eph 2:10; 1 Jo 2:3-5

C. The God of All - vs 29-30

- 1. Only One God – fundamental truth of Judaism
 - a. The Great Shema – De 6:4
 - b. Isaiah's declaration against idolatry – Is 40-45 - 14 times – I am the Lord
- 2. Instead of understanding that they belonged to God,
 - a. they acted as though God belonged to them
 - b. even though from their own Scriptures, they knew that Gentiles had found favor with Him
- 3. Answering the question - Ro 10:12-13; Ga 3:8, 28
 - a. Or is He the God of the Jews only?
 - i. Is He not also the God of the Gentiles?
 - ii. Yes, of the Gentiles also,
 - b. since there is one God who will
 - i. justify the circumcised by faith
 - ii. and the uncircumcised through faith.
 - iii. Some want to get hung up on prepositions “by” “through” – Eph 2:8 by grace for Gentiles

D. God's Law Confirmed - vs 31

- 1. Do we then make void the law through faith?
 - a. Certainly not! – 3:4,6 impossible
 - b. On the contrary, we establish the law.
- 2. The Gospel does not replace the law
 - a. purpose of Law was
 - i. never to bring salvation – Ro 3:20; Jas 2:10
 - ii. to bring the knowledge of sin – Ro 7:7
 - b. The Gospel confirms and established the law
 - i. The purpose of Christ's coming - not to abolish the law but to fulfill the law – Mt 5:17
 - through His perfect life
 - by paying the penalty of death
 - ii. It drives men to Christ – Gal 3:24
 - iii. it provides believers with the potential of fulfilling the law – Ro 8:3-4