

Lesson 3: Romans 3:21-4:25

SALVATION: THE GIFT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS 3:21-8:39

Question: “How does God save sinners?”

Answer: “Being justified as a gift by His grace through the Redemption which is in Christ Jesus”. (3:24).

After reading the horrific description of the human race in its sinful rebellion against God , one wonders if there is any hope or any way such people could be saved? Yet every saved sinner is a testimony that God truly saves sinners.

Let us examine closer how He does it!

Observe and Interpret 3: 22, 24-26:

1. God is offering a righteousness through faith to all who believe: 3:22
2. One can be justified or declared right by God freely or without any cost to you: 3:24
3. Salvation is free because God is gracious: 3:24

Ephesians 2:8-9 Memorize

4. God can be gracious to sinners because His Son, Jesus Christ, has purchased us/redeemed: 3:24; see 1 Peter 1:18; Rev. 1:5; Titus 2:14; Isaiah 53:6-10

5. The vicious death of Christ was under the righteous judgment of God. His death has satisfied God's anger and holiness with regards to our sins (Isaiah 53:10)

The NIV translation "atonement" is the Greek word for "propitiation". This word was used of the Mercy Seat in the O.T.. The New Testament background had the idea of "appeasing or satisfying" the demands of even false deities. With regards to God's holiness our sins had to be paid in full for God to be righteous at the same time He is gracious. Jesus Christ could speak from the cross, "Tetelestai", Or "Paid in Full and it remains paid."

6. The gift of salvation is received by faith and will be illustrated in the life of Abraham in chapter 4: v. 25

7. The death of Christ even paid for those who sinned before the cross. God overlooked the sins of those in the past and waited to see their sins paid in the

death of Christ. GOD IS JUST WHILE DECLARING
SINNERS JUST BECAUSE JESUS CHRIST PAID THE BILL:
3:26

8. SALVATION by grace alone and faith alone in Christ
alone excludes human boasting: 3:27-31

Transition: Faith alone in Jesus Christ will save. This faith
will see God credit us with the righteousness of Jesus
Christ.

**ABRAHAM AND DAVID: FAITH ALONE IN JESUS
AND GOD WILL CREDIT US WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS!**
4:1-25

“Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as
righteousness.” 4:3 (see Genesis 15:6).

The term “credited” is used in 3,4,5,6, 8, 9, 11, 22, 23
and 24. It was used in accounting. As it used with
Abraham in Genesis 15:6 he believed God’s promise of a
posterity and God gave him credit for righteousness.

Credited is used “to put to one’s account”, “to
impute”, or “to credit” or “not to credit” as in the case of
David (4:8).

1. Abraham believed God but it was not counted as works: vs. 2-3
2. God credits the one who believes with righteousness: 4-5
3. Abraham was declared righteous by faith even while being ungodly: v. 5
4. David speaks of the one whom the Lord does not count their sins against them: vs. 7-8; Ps. 32:1-1
5. Abraham was justified/declared righteous while being uncircumcised: vs. 9-12
6. Abraham was justified before the law was given: vs. 13-15
7. God's promise is given out of grace to be believed: vs. 16-17
8. Abraham believed God for the humanly impossible: vs. 18-25
 - He believed God had the power to do what He had promised: 22

- God will credit anyone who believes the gospel that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead as the proof that we can be right before God: v. 25 “he was raised on account of our Justification”

There are three Imputations in Scripture:

1. The Sin of Adam: Romans 5:12-14
2. Jesus Christ made Sin for us: 2 Corinthians 5:19-21
3. The Righteousness of Jesus Christ credited/imputed to everyone in Christ: 2 Cor.5:21

Paul could say to Philemon regarding Onesimus, His run away servant: “If He owes you anything, charge it to me” v. 17

Conclusion: Our next lesson will unfold the rich

Treasures that come with our righteous standing
before God.