

Scriptures for Today: Romans 1:17-19 – The Gospel reveals the *righteousness* and *wrath* of God**Title of Today's Message: From Faith to Faith – *Oh the bliss of this glorious thought!*****INTRODUCTION**

Last week, we saw Paul's heart and readiness to preach the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. We began to comprehend the extent to which we are NOT where we *think* or *ought* to be in our heart and readiness to preach the gospel for our Lord's sake and glory. Today, we will learn how the Apostle Paul **INTRODUCED** the gospel when he preached it. We will see that in the gospel, the **righteousness** of God is **REVEALED** from faith to faith – that is, God demonstrates His incredible goodness and righteousness through His plan to save souls through a requirement of faith **ALONE**. As it is written, "*The just shall live by faith.*" That is good news for the people on planet earth! However, the good news becomes infinitely glorious when we comprehend that in the gospel, the **wrath** of God is **ALSO** revealed. One preacher put it this way, "*It is because God's wrath is real that His mercy is relevant.*" That is true! We will learn that God's wrath is directed towards **all ungodliness** and **unrighteousness** of men. But, **WHY?** God will say that it is because He has given **LIGHT** to every man – an internal evidence that God exists and the Bible is true – and yet people are not obeying the light given to them.

PREACHING NOTES1. In the gospel, **the righteousness of God is revealed FROM FAITH TO FAITH.** *Rom 1:17*

- ✓ In Paul's **introduction** of the gospel, **he was not ashamed** because of **its glorious truth**.

W1828 "*righteousness*" – To God: the perfection or holiness of His nature; the cause of justification.

To man: conformity of life to the divine law; moral perfection; true religion.

Genesis 15:6 "*And he BELIEVED in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.*" (1st)

Proverbs 11:4 "*Riches profit not in the day of wrath: BUT righteousness delivereth from death.*"

NOTE There are people who perceive God as "*mean*" and unreasonable in not allowing them to have pleasure in sin with no consequences. They see people as good and God as strict or a hindrance from life's fun and happiness. What a crime to God's grace and goodness. When we comprehend the righteousness of God in His providing a way of salvation and eternal life to those who by faith obey the gospel of His dear Son, we are beginning to see clearly.

APPLY _____

- ✓ **From faith TO faith ...**

John 6:29 "*Jesus answered and said unto them, **This** is the WORK of God, that **ye BELIEVE on him whom he hath sent.***"

Ephesians 2:8,9 "*For **by grace are ye saved THROUGH FAITH**; and that not of yourselves: it is THE GIFT of God: **Not of works, lest any man should boast.***"

Galatians 3:3 "*Are ye so foolish? Having **begun in the Spirit**, are ye **now made perfect by the flesh?***"

NOTE Faith in Christ **alone** is the requirement for genuine soul-saving salvation. What a glorious thought that our BELIEF and TRUST in Christ **alone** brings eternal life!! It **begins** by FAITH – believing and asking Him to be your personal Saviour. It then **continues** by FAITH – trusting and obeying His Word always. Finally, it **ends** by FAITH when we take our last breath ...

APPLY _____

- ✓ As it is written, *The just shall live BY FAITH.*

Habakkuk 2:4 “Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: **BUT the just shall live by faith.**”

Galatians 3:11 “no man...by the law in the sight of God it is EVIDENT: for, **The just shall live by faith.**”

Hebrews 10:38 “Now **the just shall live by faith**: but if any man draw back...”

NOTE From the Old Testament (Habakkuk) to the New Testament (Romans/Galatians) to the Tribulation Period (Hebrews) there is one glorious truth – THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH!

APPLY _____

2. In the gospel, **the wrath of God** is ALSO revealed from heaven against people. *Rom 1:18-19*

- ✓ *Against ALL ungodliness and unrighteousness of men...*

W1828 “*ungodliness*” – disregard of God and His commands and neglect of His worship; any positive act of disobedience or reverence. Consider the first 4 Commandments ... (TC 1-4)

W1828 “*unrighteousness*” – in justice, a violation of divine law; habitual course of wickedness. (TC 5-10)

1 John 5:17 “**All unrighteousness is SIN ...**”

1 John 3:4 “*Whosoever committeth sin trasgresseth also the law: for SIN is transgression of THE LAW.*”

Romans 5:6 “For when WE were yet without strength, in due time **Christ died for the UNGODLY.**”

Romans 5:8 “*But God commendeth his love for us, in that, while we were yet sinners, **Christ died for us.**”*

NOTE This is where it is important to understand that Paul was writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to reveal the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in a clear and simple manner. It was God that inspired Paul to provide the context for which one would run to the Saviour! This is WHY we start by helping people to understand what their sin looks like. You must see your NEED for a Saviour. Until you see your crimes, you will not rightly comprehend grace.

APPLY _____

- ✓ *Who HOLD **the truth** in unrighteousness... HOW? WHY? **Because ...***

- ✓ that which may be known of God is MANIFEST IN THEM; for **God hath shewed it unto them.**

John 1:9 “That was the **true** LIGHT, which lighteth EVERY MAN that cometh into the world.”

Romans 2:15 “Which **shew the work of the law written** IN THEIR HEARTS, their **conscience** ALSO bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing...”

Romans 1:21 “**Because that, when they KNEW** God, they glorified him not as God...”

Romans 1:28 “And even as **they did not like** to RETAIN God in their knowledge...”

Romans 1:32 “Who **KNOWING** the judgment of God...”

NOTE When some people hear the gospel, they question God’s wisdom by talking about some tribesmen in the middle of Africa who has never heard the gospel. Yet, God tells us in these verses that even the tribesman has been given light from God. Obey the light God gave you.

The Bible is clear – God has put the knowledge of Him inside of every person. That changes how we witness to people who are lost. The fact is, God is incredibly good! He is so good that He has given people every possible opportunity to be saved. And, He has given every person a choice. **You are free to choose to trust Christ by faith or reject Him.** However, you are not free from the consequences of your choice! If you choose to reject Christ, you will spend eternity reaping the horrific consequences in a literal hell and the lake of fire.

Yet, God’s love and mercy abound and His grace is infinitely amazing! He is not willing that ANY should perish. Have you obeyed the light God has given you? Preach to the conscience.

APPLY _____