

August 2nd – The Imputed Righteousness of Christ

“But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness.”
(Romans 4:5)

Has anyone ever gone to bat for you before, maybe even when you were undeserving? Think of someone whose been arrested. An innocent person comes to pay his/her bond so that they can be released from captivity. If you've ever bought your first car then perhaps someone co-signed for you. By adding their signature to your car loan, he/she promised to make good on the loan if you failed to make the payments. Their good name (and good credit) was applied to you.

Salvation is much like that. Jesus Christ was born the perfect Son of God, and we know that He lived a perfect sinless life. He never did one thing wrong, but that didn't keep the religious right from falsely accusing Him and sentencing Him to death. Jesus was turned over into the hands of sinful men who beat Him unmercifully and crucified Him at Calvary. It was on that cross that Jesus shed His blood for the sins of mankind. Only His blood is the perfect payment for the sins of every human being.

The good news is this – because Jesus has made atonement for your sins and mine, when we place our faith in Jesus not only are our sins covered by the blood of Christ, but the spotless righteousness of Christ is “imputed” to us. When it comes to righteousness, we are all spiritually bankrupt because everyone of us has sinned. But through faith in Jesus, the righteousness of Christ is lavished on us, and we stand before God totally justified – just as if we had never sinned! Through His righteousness, we have a right-standing with God!