

# Justified!

Romans 3:20-31

Justification: to be made righteous.

Justification → Sanctification → Glorification

**Big Idea:** We are justified by God's grace as a gift; so, trust Jesus and be saved.

<sup>20</sup>For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—<sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. <sup>26</sup> It was to show his righteousness at the present time, **so that** he might be *just* and *the justifier* of the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup> Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup> For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. <sup>29</sup> Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, <sup>30</sup> since God is one-- who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. <sup>31</sup> Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law. (Rom 3:21-31)

**Big Idea:** We are justified by God's grace as a gift; so, trust Jesus and be saved.

## Justified!

1. We cannot save ourselves (3:20).
2. God wants to save people (3:21-22)
3. God sent Jesus to save us (3:22-26).
4. Nobody can boast in their salvation (3:27-31).



# 1. We cannot save ourselves (3:20).

“For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin ... all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Rom 3:20, 23)

## 2. God wants to save people (3:21-22).

<sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—<sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction...

## God wants to save people.

- i. The Law bears witness to the gospel. It's been a long time coming.
- ii. Available to all who believe.
- iii. There is no distinction; God doesn't have favorites.

### 3. God sent Jesus to save us (3:22-26).

For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. <sup>26</sup> It was to show his righteousness at the present time, **so that** he might be *just and the justifier* of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Propitiation is “an offering that turns away the wrath of God directed against sin” (cf. 1:18; 2:5). Jesus is our propitiation (Heb 2:17; 1Jn 2:2; 4:10).

Jesus is the Mercy Seat (Rom 3:25; Heb 9:5).

- i. The Mercy Seat was the place of atonement (Lev 16:15-34).
- ii. The blood of the atoning sacrifice was sprinkled on the mercy seat.
- iii. The presence of God met the High Priest at the mercy seat (Ex. 25:21-22).

## Only Jesus and All Jesus.

- i. Jesus is the temple (John 1:14)
- ii. Jesus is the High Priest (Hebrews 9)
- iii. Jesus is the sacrifice (Hebrews 9).
- iv. Jesus is God's presence with us (Matt 1:23)
- v. Jesus is the Mercy seat (Rom 3:25).
- vi. Jesus completely fulfills "the Law and the Prophets bear witness to" God's righteousness (Rom 3:21; Matt 5:17).

## Believe and be saved.

- i. The righteousness of God ... for all who believe (v. 22).
- ii. Justified by his grace as a gift (v. 24) ... to be received by faith (v. 25).
- iii. God is justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus (v. 26).



#### 4. No boasting in salvation (3:27-31).

<sup>27</sup> Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup> For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. <sup>29</sup> Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, <sup>30</sup> since God is one-- who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. <sup>31</sup> Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law. (Rom 3:21-31)

All who trust Jesus are justified by God's grace as a gift; so, tell someone about Jesus.