

Romans: The Gospel

The Law of Faith

Romans 3:21-4:8

<p>[Pray]</p> <p>:21-22b</p> <p>The law is not the container of God's righteousness (end all, be all) His righteousness is bigger than the law</p> <p>The law is merely a witness -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to his righteousness • and our unrighteousness 	<p>Along with the prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Elijah, John the Baptist, etc. etc.)</p> <p>God loves to use people, even in delivering the law (Moses)</p> <p>Angel means messenger And his favorite messengers are people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angels tell shepherds who tell others • Jesus tells Mary to tell disciples <p>Two witnesses in Revelation 11, likely Moses & Elijah</p>
<p>How to really see God's righteousness? Faith.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith in what creation shows • Faith in what the law reveals • in what the prophets spoke • what His Son did <p>With the eyes of faith we can look through that lens and see God clearly</p>	<p><i>Multifaceted diamond</i> <i>clarity, color, beautiful from all angles</i> <i>Same as when God does something.</i></p> <p>Jesus said John 14:9b "...He who has seen Me has seen the Father..."</p>

Threefold Witness (Three In Heaven, Three On Earth)

1 John 5:6-13 - This is He who came by water and blood--Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word (Jesus is literally the Word), and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 - Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

John 1:1-5 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

<p>To all and On all who believe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God's righteousness witnessed to everyone • His righteousness on everyone who believes <p>That's everyone. Every group. Every person.</p> <p>Luke 18:16 - But Jesus called them to Him and said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.</p> <p>Young and old We make a grave mistake if we think children can't come to Jesus</p>	<p>Not baptizing infants, but children choosing</p> <p><u>Yesm they must make it real as they grow, but so do you and I</u></p> <p>Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.</p> <p>We make a mistake if we think we can wait until we're old. We'll have hardened our heart, our conscience and our ears will be clogged</p> <p>2 Cor 6:2c Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.</p>
<p>Mia - 11/19/15 (age 2 ¾) GoJ on Netflix Jacob - 12/31/17 (age 3) Elisha - 12/29/19 (age 3) Timmy - 12/23/22 (age 3 ½)</p> <p><i>All asked! Elisha's baptism, friend went down Why? Because we shared, Jesus is a part of our lives, and they heard Him and asked</i></p>	<p>Our faith is not built on or limited to our understanding of doctrine It's comes by hearing, then believing</p> <p>Believing what? Jesus is God and He died to forgive us and bring us home with Him</p>
<p>:22c-24</p> <p>The bad news of the good news: <u>All</u> have sinned and <u>fall short</u> of the glory of God Nobody's good, not even your grandma</p>	<p>Sin down the fatherly line <i>Conceived in sin</i></p> <p>Life is not sin. But life and all creation groans under it Born into a world full of it But not Jesus - that's Christmas</p>

<p>So all sinned... But all <u>freely justified</u> by Jesus</p> <p>If we'd but accept it, believe it, trust it</p>	<p>Justified by what? His grace Grace vs. mercy recap</p> <p>Where is it found? In the law? <u>No. In Jesus!</u></p>
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<p>:25-26</p> <p>God sent forth the law... Sent forth his prophets... But all as the procession before His Son (like palm sunday)</p>	<p>It was all <u>preparation</u> and <u>pointing</u> to Jesus</p> <p>God could be known about by the law and words and works of the prophets</p> <p>But only truly known personally in His son</p>
<p>Propitiation "To extinguish guilt by penalty" to make complete satisfaction for; to atone for; to make amends for;</p> <p>God was not content with <u>just</u> words. He <u>demonstrated</u> His righteousness</p> <p>He showed that our faith could be in something real</p> <p>That His Promises are "yes and amen" ... Not in the law... but in Jesus</p>	<p>Jesus death was the <u>ultimate demonstration</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • of God's righteousness • And of our unrighteousness <p>He chose to die for us, but it was our sin he became</p> <p>When He sees our faith in <u>that</u> work, He's satisfied and we're set free</p> <p>Demonstration, Propitiation, Redemption, Salvation</p>

:27

**That's why boasting in our works isn't included in faith
Because it's His work - that's where we boast**

1 Corinthians 1:26-31 - For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are

despised God has chosen, **and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence.** But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God--and righteousness and sanctification and redemption-- that, **as it is written, "He who glories, let him glory in the LORD."**

2 Corinthians 11:30 - If I must boast, I will boast in the things which concern my infirmity.

<p>:28-31</p> <p>The conclusion? Faith is the justifier. And it has nothing to do with the law. (Not works to obey the law)</p> <p>There's a greater law at work: the law of faith (and hope and love)</p> <p>God is a God of all <u>because He's the only God there is</u></p> <p>And what is the <u>measure</u> of justification? Faith. Not circumcision (Jew or Gentile)</p>	<p>Does this mean faith is opposed to the law or obedience? No! The opposite, it is the fulfilment</p> <p>Jesus fulfilled the law - because He is the embodiment of God and obedience and relationship and word</p> <p>The law is established <u>in</u> faith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's the way it's obeyed from the heart • It's the way it's shown good <p>If we have faith in God to meet our needs... we won't steal</p> <p>If we have faith in God to be God... we won't have idols (etc.)</p>
<p>4:1-3</p> <p>Abraham - the one circumcision was handed down through</p> <p>If circumcision was his claim to fame, then he didn't need faith and could boast But he didn't</p> <p>Abraham was a pretty big deal to the Jews,</p> <p>"But not before God" <i>same as you and me - simply reading reveals how human and weak he was</i></p>	<p>A good way to tell the difference between faith and works (or works masquerading as faith)</p> <p><u>Is if we boast in it</u></p> <p>What's your boast? Are the good old days your claim to fame? What are you living on in faith today for?</p> <p>X number of days sober? Or I was dead, but now I live - and I count my born again birthdays?</p>

Are you boasting about how long you waited/suffered/prayed and that's why your marriage is saved?

You're boasting in the works

And people will praise you for it!

Buy your book! Attend your seminar!
Subscribe to your podcast.

But when your boast is in Jesus...

You're usually scoffed at. Looked at funny.

There had to be something you did!

No, I just trusted in Jesus!

All I did was praise

All I did was worship

All I did was bow down

All I did was stay still

Hallelujah, You have saved me

Ecclesiastes 9:15-17 - Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city. Yet no one remembered that same poor man. Then I said: "Wisdom is better than strength. **Nevertheless the poor man's wisdom is despised, And his words are not heard.** Words of the wise, spoken quietly, should be heard Rather than the shout of a ruler of fools.

Where did Abraham get his righteousness?

Believing in God's righteousness
How hard is that? To believe God is righteous? That's pretty much intrinsic to who God is! How much credit do we get for believing something so simple and true?

"Stay under the spout where the glory comes out" Pastor Chuck

**Abraham knew where to go,
Whom to trust**

That's why he obeyed the crazy thing of circumcision -

because his heart was ready to go wherever God went and be identified with God

That's why he put Isaac on the altar

The son of the promise
Impossible, waited for

Because he believed God would come through although he didn't know how

And what a picture of Jesus that produced

:4

If you work...you should get paid

**When we rely on works of the law,
we think God owes us - and owes us big**

(as if God needed us to get by -
he owns a cattle on a thousand hills)

God will take care of you as you serve Him,
obey Him, follow Him

**But when we're truly serving Him,
we're never doing it for the reward
The reward is in serving him being near**

We're doing it in faith,
knowing that he'll take care of us
That his very presence is our care

Psalm 84:10 - For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God** Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

When God asks you to do something - it's never a job

It's to obey the law of faith -

Daddy said it, I believe it

Why i hate ministry being treated as a career (interviews, move on after a few years)

And yet he'll take care of you as if you were doing a job - even if you're an ox

1 Timothy 5:18 - For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer is worthy of his wages."

If ministry is "work" - check yourself first.

Maybe it started off right, but your heart got off the path

If then it's still work, out of obligation - then get out of it

It needs to be overflow of your life (his life), your calling, His calling you

Doing it for Jesus, vs doing it for others

How to tell? Are you burnt out?

Do you keep going, even when no one else cares, or says thanks?

**The need is not the call
But the call will meet a need**

Jacob Serving for Rachel 7 years seemed short, then seven more

:5-8

King David

Another person that the Jews/Israelites loved
And loved to boast about

Great king, warrior, song writer, little boy/young man who fought goliath
"man after God's own heart"

Yet David sinned greatly

And knew God was merciful and threw himself at the feet of the King

David sinning with Bathsheeba, has Uriah killed, Nathan the prophet, David repents

David sinning and counting the people, chooses to fall into God's hands

If David's works were his justification, his failures kept him out of being justified

What erases a murder?

Indeed blood kept him from building the house of the Lord

Partly from war, but also sin

Why? God's kingdom isn't built on judgment. Isn't built on the blood of his enemies

(although His enemies blood will be as high as the horse's bridle Rev 14:20)

What did Jesus boasted about in a way?

He loved being called Son of David

Their relationship was intact
and on the best footing ever - faith in God

**God's promises to David would not be
revoked! Because they were GOD'S
PROMISES**

and God knew all David would do before
he was even born.

Romans 11:29 - For the gifts and the calling
of God are irrevocable. (unrepented,
unregretted)

Irrevocable, can't be unsaid, taken back from
where they were spoken

**So where does the blessing
of God come from?**

- Our works or Gods?
- Gods!

What does the blessing give?

Forgiveness of sins

- completely.
- Underserved.
- Could never be paid off.

We're bought back (redeemed) **by His work**

The way to get blessing?

(joy, peace)

Through faith in Jesus

What does that faith believe?

**God's righteousness is big enough
to deal with our unrighteousness**

This is Paul quoting David's Psalm 32

- Deed forgiven
- Sins covered
- Sin not calculated, accounted for
(like your tax bill)

**What's the heavenly
accountant's math?**

Sin not accounted for judgment
Faith accounted for righteousness

You've heard of the law of gravity?
This is the Law of Faith.

Not of works of the law.
But deeds of faith.
Starting with believing God.

If we work to obey the law
(to make ourselves acceptable)
we'll find burden

If we trust in the law of faith
(that God did the work)
we'll find blessing

Abraham did. David did. & More
(Heb 11 Hall of Faith)
Do we?

Christmas gets this wrong -
it's not naughty or nice, we're all naughty

**But we all have the same great gift to
receive with our names on it - through
faith: Jesus, God's righteousness**