

Righteous Through Faith Romans 3: 21-31

1. If someone asks you, "Why should God accept you?" What would be the first answer that comes to your mind?
2. Verse 21 says: "But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law." Why is "but now" such an important turning point?
3. Verse 22 says that the righteousness of God is "given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe." Why do you think "faith" rather than "works" becomes the way to righteousness?
4. Verse 23 is a very famous line in the Bible: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." How do you understand the phrase "fall short of the glory of God"?
5. Verse 24 says that a person is: "justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." What does the word "freely" mean to you? Why is it often difficult for people to truly accept "free grace"?
6. Verses 25-26 say that God appointed Jesus as an "atoning sacrifice." In simple terms, this means that Jesus took on the judgment that was originally meant for humans. Why do you think the cross is so important for understanding the gospel? Why can't God just "forgive" sins directly?
7. Verse 27 says: "Where, then, can boasting arise? It is excluded." If salvation is by grace, why then can people not boast? In which spiritual matters do you think people are prone to boasting?
8. Summary of verse 28: "A person is justified by faith apart from works of the law." What do you think is the aspect of the truth of "justification by faith" that is most easily misunderstood?
9. Verses 29–30 point out that God is not only the God of the Jews, but also the God of the Gentiles. Why was this a huge challenge for the Jews at that time? Do we also inadvertently limit the gospel to certain groups of people today?
10. Verse 31 says: "Do we then nullify the law by faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we uphold the law." What do you think "faith upholds the law" might mean? In your spiritual life, what do you find yourself relying on the most?