Unashamed

The Book Of Romans

HEAR IT

Listen now: Righteousness Through Faith

READ IT

Romans 3:21-31

KEY VERSES:

Verses 21-24a: But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, who God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith....V. 27: 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. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

REVIEW IT

All human beings, of every race, creed, culture, Jews and Gentiles, those who are viewed as moral or immoral, the religious and the irreligious, are without exception, sinful, inexcusable, and have no recourse before God. HOWEVER, verse 21 tells us that things have turned a corner, that our dire situation has been given hope. God himself has intervened. Against our current, dismal condition, which we have brought upon ourselves, Paul now interjects the righteousness of God and the hope that now comes through Jesus Christ. Against judgment, he now sets justification.

JUSTIFICATION: Simply put, to justify is to declare righteous, to make one right with God. Justification is God's declaring those who receive Christ to be righteous, based on Christ's righteousness being given to those who receive Christ. JUST AS IF I HAD NEVER SINNED.

As John Calvin said, "No one can put on the righteousness of Christ without regeneration."

DISCUSS IT

Look up the definition of propitiation. How did Christ become a propitiation for our sins?

"For our sake he made him who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

2 Corinthians 5:21— What does this verse mean to you personally? Put your name in the verse and make it personal!

Discuss these 3 points:

- 1) What is the source of our justification? (vs 24)
- 2) What is the ground of our justification? (vs 25-26)
- 3) What is the means of our justification? (vs 26)

PRAY IT

Lord, thank you that you justify me by my faith in you and that I don't have to earn your love. THANK YOU for Jesus paying the price for me on the cross, for all he went through. Lord, show me where my pride and self-centeredness is when I think I can somehow earn my way to heaven by my deeds. Show me where I think I am better because of what I do, not who You are. Teach me to serve you out of love for Jesus, not duty. Help me to be completely satisfied in your LOVE AND GRACE.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

APPLY IT

How can you live the grace of Jesus this week to someone? How can you model "propitiation"? How can you show the peace that comes from knowing that you are loved beyond measure? Think of at least one thing you can do or one person you can share this with.