

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
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The Book of Romans

Lesson 10 – No works required

Chapter 3: 21-25

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In Romans three one through twenty we have studied why men need a Saviour. The Bible says in 3:19, ***Now we know that what things soever the Law saith, it saith to them who are under the Law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.*** (That is the summary of what we have read up to this point in Romans.) ***20 Therefore by the deeds of the Law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the Law is the knowledge of sin.*** The Bible is very clear – you cannot be justified by the deeds of the Law, we covered that in our last lesson together. When we get to twenty-one we see two little words that the Holy Spirit uses when things are about to change. See also: 1 Corinthians 12:18; 1 Corinthians 12:20; Galatians 4:9; Ephesians 2:13; Ephesians 5:8.

Verse 21. ***But now...*** (you are guilty, verse 19; you cannot keep the Law, verse 20.) In verse 21 ***But now the righteousness of God without the Law is manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the prophets; But now the righteousness of God – That is better than any righteousness you can work for. But now the righteousness of God without the Law.*** No works required.

The Law could never justify a sinner, nor could it impute righteousness. But now, two little words in this passage hold an array of glorious facts:

- Once we were under condemnation, but now we have salvation.
- Once we trembled at the Law, but now His words dispel our fear.
- Once we were left speechless, but now we praise the Saviour.
- Once we were guilty, but now we are justified.
- Once we faced punishment, but now we know our substitute.

Verse 22. ***Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:*** (What a glorious truth!) How does one obtain the righteousness of God? The Bible says, it is by faith of Jesus Christ. The word “of” in this verse means “pertaining to”, that is man pertaining to God’ so the faith that has to do with Jesus Christ allows one to receive from God the righteousness of God Himself.

The righteousness of God, not the righteousness (from God) as seen in other versions. The work of Christ at Calvary, it was there that God made Him to be sin for us. ***For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*** 2 Corinthians 5:21. It was at the

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cross that Christ met every demand of the Law, allowing it to be said of believers the following statement: ***But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: 1 Corinthians 1:30.***

Verse 23. ***For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*** This is the answer to verse 22.

In this verse we learn two facts:

- All have sinned
- All have come short of the Glory of God

The Bible says all have sinned in many ways throughout its pages, let's look at a few: Isaiah 64:6; Romans 3:10; Isaiah 53:6; Ecclesiastes 7:20; Psalms 51:9; Ephesians 2:1.

We all have been sinners since Adam and Eve, when they sinned and ate of the tree in which God commanded them not to eat, sin entered into them, since they are our Great, Great, Great..... Grandparents, that sin was transferred by the blood down through all the years of time, until it came to your Mom and mine and then it was passed on to us. Romans 5:12. Since God is Holy righteous and perfect, He cannot accept anything short of perfect holiness. The glory of God is an indication of a standard of which man can never attain.

Verse 24. ***Being justified....*** Justified means to be pronounced righteous; Justification means sin is all gone, wiped out, not merely forgiven or pardoned, it means clearing the slate and setting the sinner before God as a righteous man, as if he never sinned, as if he was righteous as the Lord Jesus Christ himself.

Justification is outlined in a three-fold understanding:

- Grace as its' source
- Blood as its' ground and cause
- Faith of Jesus Christ as its' means and condition

Justification is only possible by the combined working of all three.

Justification can only come from God; there is nothing that man can do to acquire this gift. Justification means to remove the condemnation of sin, it removes his guilt. A King or Governor can pardon a subject but he cannot reinstate the criminal in a position the same as a person that has never broken the Law. God does both, He pardons removing man's guilt from the past, then as God only He removes it from the future also.

Verse 24. .. ***freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:*** What is grace? Grace in short means: Undeserved favor and unmerited mercy from God. God's grace is the source of all man's blessings. God's grace is the starting place of our salvation from God through our Lord Jesus

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Christ. Ephesians 2: 8-9. Jesus Christ is the complete expression of God's grace. There is nothing man can do to be justified, God gave his Son freely by His grace so we could be saved.

1. Salvation is free to us: it did not cost the sinner a thing. The sinner is pronounced justified by God; when the sinner receives Jesus Christ who paid the price. John 1: 12,13; Colossians 2:6; Romans 8:15.
2. Salvation comes through the unmerited favor from God: There is **nothing** that a sinner can do earn salvation. It is God's gift. Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 5:18; Romans 6:23; John 3:16. And there is **nothing** a sinner can do to lose the gift of salvation that God has given.
3. Salvation comes through the redemptive work by the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary. Redemption means to buy back; Jesus Christ bought us from death and brought us to life in Him, by shedding His precious blood. Hebrews 9:22; Colossians 1:14; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Jesus Christ met all the demands of the Law and thereby imputed unto us the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 10:4; Philippians 3:9; Romans 4:24.

Verse 25. ***Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;*** What is propitiation? The act of appeasing wrath and reconciling the favor of the offended person. Everybody is offered the righteous of God in Jesus Christ. That righteousness only rests upon those that believe. He is the Saviour of all men... specially of them that believe. - 1 Timothy 4:10.

Jesus Christ was our Saviour before you & I were saved. Jesus Christ was our righteousness before you were made righteous – we did not have any righteousness on our own. All men have only one choice, if they want to be righteous, they must choose Jesus Christ for He alone is the righteous one. Well, who is righteous? Only those that believe. If you die and go to hell, it won't be because you did not have a Saviour. It will be because you did not trust that Saviour.

Justified, redemption, propitiation, remission, forbearance, do you know what those are? Those are words with spiritual and doctrinal meanings that explain exactly what God has done in Christ for the sinner.

In the Bible we have periods of time in which God dispenses certain things and certain truths to man.

- Innocence: In the garden before man sinned – Genesis 2
- Conscience: In the garden after man sinned – Genesis 3
- Government: After the flood – Genesis 11
- The Law: Exodus 20

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- Grace: Matthew 27
- Judgment: Ezekiel 20
- Millennial: Revelation 20

We also have two testaments. Make sure when reading God's word that you keep this verse in mind: 2 Timothy 2:15 – **Rightly Divide.**

1. God's dealing with man before Jesus Christ – Genesis 2 – Matthew 26
2. God's dealing with man after Jesus Christ – Matthew 26:28; Mark 14:24; Hebrews 9:15; Hebrews 12:24; Hebrews 9:16-17.

How often have you heard this statement from people who did not follow the principles of 2 Timothy 2:15? –They say: “people before the cross went to heaven by keeping the Law, and people after the cross went to heaven by trusting in Jesus Christ” This statement has confused many people into believing other false doctrines such as “after the catching away of the saints – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, people will go back to keeping the law in order to go to heaven.” Both these statements are false, all get to heaven by faith.

Unfortunately some make divisions in our Bible that God did not make, notice Romans 3:21, ***But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;*** What would you find if you read the Law? You would not find eternal life promised to those who never violated its' statutes. What would you find? You would find the necessity of faith. How did the children of Israel get out of Egypt? By keeping commandments? No. Only by the blood of the Lamb. How did they live in the wilderness? By keeping commandments or looking upon the serpent on the pole? How did they get into Jericho? By keeping the commandments or did God make the walls fall down flat? Throughout that Old Testament era, the Bible says, by faith Gideon... by faith Barak... by faith Jephthah... by faith David. Hebrews 11. If you look at that Law, the Law will testify “you need to put faith in God, because we are all sinners and incapable of keeping the Law.

Moses the Lawgiver could not get into the Promised Land, because he disobeyed God and smote the rock. Numbers 20:11. Aaron the first high priest made a golden calf and led an insurrection with his sister who ended up with leprosy; and two of his boys were burnt with fire from God for false worship in the temple. Exodus 32; Numbers 12.

The Law did not have a good start. The generation that received the Law and said they would keep it, spent thirty eight years dying in the wilderness because they did not have any faith in God. What do we learn from the Law? We learn that no man can keep the Law, we learn that God in

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His grace and mercy desires to save the souls of men, we also learn that the righteousness of God is available by faith, not by Law keeping.

Look at the end of verse 21 - ***being witnessed by the Law and the prophets... the Law and the prophets***; How did Lazarus get to Abraham's bosom instead of going to hell – Luke 16:19-31? How did the dying thief get to paradise instead of going to hell - Luke 23:40-43; by faith in Jesus Christ. Nicodemus who was (pre-Calvary), Jesus said, “*ye must be born again*”... - John 3:3” John the Baptist who was (pre-Calvary) said, “*behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world*” – John 1:29.

Read Isaiah 53, and you will see salvation by grace. ***He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed*** – Salvation by grace is throughout the Old Testament - a red heifer - Numbers 19, the bird dipped in blood and set free to fly away – Leviticus 14, the scapegoat that bore the nation's sins away into the wilderness – Leviticus 16, the offering of Isaac – Genesis 22.

1 Peter 1:9-12. ***Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. 10 Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, (watch) who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.***

What did the prophets write about?

The blessings we are enjoying, salvation by grace through the shed blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Notes

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Name _____

1. What two little words change the outcome of scriptural facts?
2. Show 4 other places in scripture, where those two little words change the outcome of a scriptural truth?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
3. How does one obtain the righteousness of God?
4. How did Lazarus end up in Abraham's bosom?
5. "All have sinned" is seen throughout scripture; show us some of 3 other places.
6. What is the meaning of propitiation?
7. What are the 7 periods of time where God distributes certain truths to man?

a.	b.
c.	d.
e.	f.
g.	

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8. Read Luke 16:19-31, find 7 abilities the rich man still had even after he was dead. I gave you one hint
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
 - f.
 - g. concern – Luke 16:28
9. Explain the two covenants.
10. Explain Hebrews 9:16-17 in relation to this lesson.
11. Salvation by grace is pictured throughout the Bible, show us 3 of those places and briefly explain how it is shown.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
12. What is the meaning of the word “of “ as it pertains to this lesson, why is this little word so important?

True/false

- To understand the scriptures properly we must apply the principles of rightly dividing.
- God pardons and removes our iniquity past, present and future.
- There is nothing a Christian can do to lose his/or her gift of salvation.
- If a man in the Old Testament had faith in God and died breaking the Law, he would still go to Heaven.



Scripture memorization, write out these verses on the back on this page:
(must be in KJV) Hebrews 9:16-17; Colossians 1:14; 1 Timothy 4:10.

KJV

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Any Questions?