

GOD'S
GOOD
NEWS

The Heart of the Gospel

Paul's experience

"Don't call anything impure that God has made clean"

"This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their Kings."



The Good News is righteousness from God

Ro.3:21 *“But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known”.*

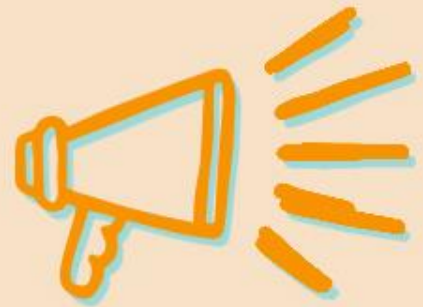
“in-the-right”

Martin Luther:

“I greatly longed to understand Paul’s Epistle to the Romans and nothing stood in the way but that one expression “the righteousness of God”, because I took it to mean that righteousness whereby God is righteous and deals righteously in punishing the unrighteous...”



*...Night and day I pondered until I grasped the truth that the righteousness of God is that righteousness whereby, through grace and sheer mercy, he justifies (**puts right**) us by faith. Thereupon I felt myself to be reborn and to have gone through open doors into paradise. The whole of Scripture took on a new meaning, and whereas before “the righteousness of God had filled me with hate, now it became to me inexpressibly sweet in greater love. This passage of Paul became to me a gateway to heaven.”*



The Good News is for Everyone

*“The righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ **to all...***

*There is no difference **for all** have sinned...” v. 22/23*

All in the same boat



The Good News is through Faith

“This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.”

v22

“Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Heb.11:6



“The obvious impossibility of carrying out a moral programme should make it plain that no one can sustain a relationship with God that way. The person who lives in right relationship with God does it by embracing what God arranges for him. Doing things for God is the opposite of entering into what God does for you. Habakkuk had it right: “The person who believes God, is set right by God – and that’s real life.”

The Message



The Good News by Grace

“We are all put right freely by his grace.”

v.24



The Heart of the Good News

v.24 "...all are put right through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement through faith in his blood."

a) "Redemption by Christ Jesus"

Slave Market – freedom

Examples from Israel's history:

out of slavery in Egypt

Return from Exile



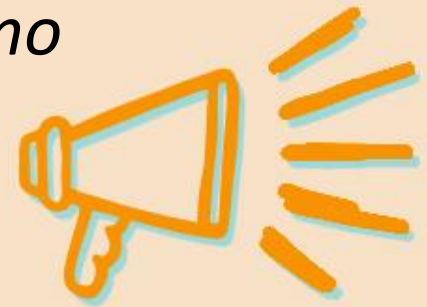
“Do not be afraid, O little Israel, for I myself will help you, declares the Lord your Redeemer.” Is 41:14

b) Messiah – self-offering

“Sacrifice of atonement”

Example from the Temple – “mercy seat” – blotting out

“Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness” Heb.9:11



“The whole matter is now on a different plane – believing instead of achieving. We see now that a man is justified before God by the fact of his faith in God’s appointed Saviour and not by what he has managed to achieve.”

JBPhillips



