

ROMANS: PART 15 EXPLANATION OF THE GOSPEL

God's Righteous Justification (Righteousing) of All Who Believe
"Justification In Christ Alone"
Romans 3:24b-26

The Context.

1. Gospel of Justification Defined. Rom 3:21-26.
 - The *means* of justification -- faith alone. Vs 21-22.
 - The *source* of justification -- grace alone. Vs 22-24.
 - The *ground* of justification -- Christ alone. Vs 24b-26.

We Have A Three-fold problem (at least!):

1. We are under God's holy wrath. Rom 1:18.
2. We are under the Law's just condemnation. Rom 3:19.
 - Question: How can a holy God forgive sinners and remain just & righteous?
 - If He justifies sinners -- He's unjust. If He condemns -- None saved!
3. We must pay sins impossible price. Rom 6:23.

PROPITIATION (Temple setting): God's answer to His holy wrath against us.

1. Propitiation is more than "expiation" (removal of guilt).
 - This is the removal of guilt by satisfying God's wrath. Rom 1:18; I Thess 1:10.
2. Propitiation just anger of God is satisfied through the shedding of blood:
 - Heb 9:22; I Cor 5:7b; I Pet 1:19; Acts 20:28
 - Adam/Eve -- Abel -- Noah -- Abraham -- Passover -- Day of Atonement -- Christ the Lamb
 - The just anger of God was poured out on Christ & He was satisfied. Isa 53:11.
3. Now Christ is *set forth as a public announcement* of God's righteousness

REDEMPTION (Market setting): God's answer to our impossible debt of sin.

1. Agorazo (αγοράζω) to buy.
 - Ekagorazo (εκαγοράζω) to buy out. Intensified. To pay for sin & restore.
2. Christ paid our impossible debt & then He restored us. Lk 15:11-32.

JUSTIFICATION (Court setting): God's answer to our just condemnation under the Law.

1. Justification is an abundant word in Scripture: dikaios (81/adj) dikaiosyne (92/noun) dikaiosismos (39/verb) dikaioma (10/noun) dikaios (5/adv). Like the word "righteous" dikaios
2. Christ met the demands of the Law for us. Cf. Lk 10:29; 16:15.

His three-fold answer demonstrates that:

1. God is *just* (holy). Prop./Redmpt./Just. demonstrate (index = a pointer) His righteousness.
2. God is a *justifier* (Savior):
 - He vindicated His righteousness in the way He saved O.T. believers. 25b. By credit.
 - He vindicates His righteousness in the way He saved N.T. believers. 26a. By debit.

Application.

1. Biblical Christianity is dogmatically narrow.
2. Biblical Christianity is absolutely certain.
3. Biblical Christianity is open to you.