

The Righteousness of God Vindicated

Is God Just to Declare Sinners Righteous?

In this hour, we're going to begin with a brief survey of how the word *righteousness* is used in the principal Old Testament texts where that is employed. Then we will spend the majority of our time looking at one important New Testament passage: Romans 3, starting with verse 19. And we'll cover these eight verses:

Rom 3:19 Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it--

22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

First, a definition: *Righteousness* is "perfect consistency with and faithfulness to all the moral precepts of God's law."

In the text we're looking at, Paul summarizes how the righteousness of God is manifested in the law, in the gospel, and in the justification of sinners.

1. HOW THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IS MANIFESTED IN THE LAW

2. **HOW THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IS MANIFESTED IN THE GOSPEL**

3. **HOW THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IS MANIFESTED IN THE JUSTIFICATION OF SINNERS**