

The Magnificent Gift of Righteousness

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Broadcast Dates: 12/24/24-12/25/24

Message Date: 12/24/23 ● 10:00 A.M.

Scriptures:

- 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Romans 4:6-8
- Hebrews 9:28, *NLT*

Summary:

We must never underestimate the power of faith in Jesus Christ. Despite studying God's Word, many people still struggle with the concept of righteousness; it's vital to understand, receive, and walk in it. Before we got saved, we had a sinful nature; none of the good deeds we did could change that. After we got born again, God gave us a new, righteous nature; now, despite any sins we commit, He still sees us this way. No matter how many times we fall, we'll still be righteous; this is because our identity isn't based in ourselves and in what we do, but in God and what He did. Our belief in the righteousness that He gave us will eventually cause us to change our behavior and do the right things. Accepting who we now are in Christ frees us from religious deception and moves us past useless self-effort.

Notes:

1. Our righteousness doesn't come from ourselves, but from Jesus Christ and faith in Him.
2. Some people say that we're only righteous until we fall, and that we can sin away our righteousness. However, doing good things before we got born again didn't change our identity as spiritually dead sinners. After getting born again, we still commit sinful acts, but we're no longer sinners; our identity has changed.
3. We're righteous not because we do right, but because of Jesus and what He already did right. We didn't *become* right; He *made* us right.
4. Jesus took all of mankind's unrighteousness onto Himself when He went to the cross so that we could have *His* righteousness, and therefore have the right to stand blameless before God.
5. We don't have to obsess over sin; Jesus already took care of it permanently, on the cross. There's no need to fear His second coming.
6. God will never impute sin to the born-again believer, because He already imputed it to Jesus.

Category: righteousness/salvation

Keywords: gift, power, faith, righteousness, saved, righteous, sins, belief