

Maintaining Your Righteous Stance (Part 2)

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Broadcast Dates: 5/3/24, 5/6/24, & 5/7/24

Message Date: 12/31/23 ● 7:00 P.M.

Scripture References:

- Romans 1:16, 17, *NLT*
- Genesis 15:6
- 1 John 2:1
- Ephesians 1:4, *NLT*
- 2 Corinthians 7:2
- Colossians 1:22, *NLT*
- Luke 10:19
- 2 Corinthians 5:17, *NLT*
- Romans 5:17, *NLT*
- Romans 3:20-31, *NLT*
- Romans 3:31
- Galatians 2:15-20, *MSG*

Summary:

The coming year will be a pivotal point for Christians; the changes it will bring include a split within the church in which people fall away from the faith and their love grows cold. There will be plenty of slander, conflict, and offense, and people will compromise their values; however, we'll recover from that. Globally, governments will team up and become allies in preparation for the anti-Christ, whose mission it will be to destroy God's church; on a personal level, there will be a vicious attack on our souls, in which the devil will try to get us to question our righteousness in Christ. He'll use shame, guilt, and condemnation over our past mistakes and sins to accomplish this. However, our identity is based not on what we do, but on what Jesus did; standing firm on this in the midst of Satan's attacks keeps us spiritually safe.

Notes:

1. Our faith makes us righteous; the enemy wants us to think we must *earn* righteousness. Satan tries to get us to believe that we are as we behave; however, we aren't what we do. If we've been born again, we're in Christ; in Christ we're holy *right now*, not later.
2. Getting born again changes who we are; we go from being sinners to being saints. Christ replaces the old, sinful self with the new self that has a spirit as perfect and holy as His.
3. Because of what Adam did, we were all born into this world spiritually dead; however, because of what *Jesus* did, we now have a chance to receive new life on the spiritual level.
4. Righteousness isn't based on our behavior; we therefore can't lose it by our actions. The law is only capable of pointing out our flaws, but not fixing them; we need grace for that.
5. Most churches talk about rule-keeping as the path to right-standing with God, but this is incorrect; coming to Jesus just as we are changes our desires so that we want to do what pleases Him.

Category: righteousness/salvation

Keywords: maintaining, righteous, faith, righteousness, shame, guilt, condemnation, identity