

Document: App Edit

Series: Kingdom Perspective: Living out God's Grace in a Divided World

Message Title: Righteousness Revealed

Date: Sunday, August 3, 2025 (Offering Sunday)

The New Living Translation has been used for all Scripture references.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

About this Message Series

- Kingdom Perspective: Living out God's Grace in a Divided World
- 8-week Series Through the Book of Romans

Acts 2:5-12

At that time, there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers. They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!" They stood there amazed and perplexed. "What can this mean?" they asked each other.

Romans 15:23-26

But now I have finished my work in these regions, and after all these long years of waiting, I am eager to visit you. I am planning to go to Spain, and when I do, I will stop off in Rome. And after I have enjoyed your fellowship for a little while, you can provide for my journey. But before I come, I must go to Jerusalem to take a gift to the believers

there. For you see, the believers in Macedonia and Achaia have eagerly taken up an offering for the poor among the believers in Jerusalem.

Timeline

- 27 BC – Roman Empire starts with the reign of Julius Ceaser Augustus.
- AD 14 – Tiberius' reign begins
- AD 37 – Caligula's reign begins
- AD 41-54 – Reign of Claudius
- (around) AD 49 – Claudius expels all Jewish people

Acts 18:1-3

Then Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he became acquainted with a Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently arrived from Italy with his wife, Priscilla. They had left Italy when Claudius Caesar deported all Jews from Rome. Paul lived and worked with them, for they were tentmakers just as he was.

Message Title: Righteousness Revealed

Romans 1:13-17

I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to visit you, but I was prevented until now. I want to work among you and see spiritual fruit, just as I have seen among other Gentiles. For I have a great sense of obligation to people in both the civilized world and the rest of the world, to the educated and uneducated alike. So I am eager to come to you in Rome, too, to preach the Good News. For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile. This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.”

Righteousness is the quality of being morally right or just, aligned with God's character and His standards of justice and holiness. In a biblical context, righteousness denotes a state of moral integrity that is grounded in God's nature and revealed through His Word.

Romans 1:18-25

But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness. They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people and birds and animals and reptiles.

So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other's bodies. They traded the truth about God for a lie.

The Nature of God:

1. God is a just God, and He has a strong sense of justice.
2. God's wrath is a consequence of His just nature.
3. God wants us to know Him – God wants a relationship with us as His creation.
4. God is angry with SIN because it harms the people He loves and separates them from Himself.

Romans 1:28-2:6

Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

^{2:1} You may think you can condemn such people, but you are just as bad, and you have no excuse! When you say they are wicked and should be punished, you are

condemning yourself, for you who judge others do these very same things. And we know that God, in his justice, will punish anyone who does such things. Since you judge others for doing these things, why do you think you can avoid God's judgment when you do the same things? Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?

But because you are stubborn and refuse to turn from your sin, you are storing up terrible punishment for yourself. For a day of anger is coming, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. He will judge everyone according to what they have done.

God will not judge us compared to others. God will judge us according to His standard of righteousness.

Romans 3:21-26

But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.

We are made right with God by our faith in Jesus – and nothing else!

- God's justice was served with the death of His Son.
- It is in recognizing – and for some of us, remembering – this critical truth that changes our perspective.

Romans 3:27-28

Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because

our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith. So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.

Having a Kingdom Perspective means seeing the people of the world as God does – if they are still alive, they still are in His kindness. They still have a chance to accept His gift of grace.

- Our identity as a righteous child of God motivates us to act as ambassadors of His Kingdom, showing love and compassion in every dialogue, seeking and sharing the Kingdom Perspective with a culture that desperately needs it.