

Justified by Faith

Romans 3:21 – 5:21

by Don Falkos

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The way to be made right with God has been revealed. We shouldn't be surprised. The Law and the prophets have been pointing the way all along. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. It doesn't matter who we are. Everyone has sinned; everyone has fallen short of God's glorious standard.

Yet by God's grace, without earning it, we who have faith are freely acquitted in the eyes of God by the redemptive act of the Messiah Jesus, whose blood was shed on our behalf. He offered himself as the sacrifice for our sin. Even though we deserved condemnation, he endured our punishment.

Whether Jews or Gentiles, we are not justified by obeying the Law, but by faith, by believing in Jesus, by trusting in his sacrifice. We have peace with God because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done for us. And so we celebrate the problems and trials we encounter, knowing they will produce patience, which will produce a well-formed character, which will produce hope – hope confirmed by the unmerited love of God poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

God showed great love for us by sending Christ at just the right time to die for us even though we were still sinners.

Sin entered the world through Adam's disobedience. Sin brought death. So everyone suffers death, because everyone sins. But God's wonderful grace has brought forgiveness through Christ Jesus. His obedience has made possible a right relationship with God and new life, eternal life, for everyone who believes.