

Oakland International Fellowship Calvin Chiang

# Romans 3:21-31: Handout

God’s Righteousness Revealed

## 1. The Righteousness of God (Romans 3:21-26)

**21 But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; 25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for the demonstration, *I say*, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.**

***Biblical Definition Cheat Sheet***

\*Righteousness of God:

\*Justification:

\*Redemption:

\*Propitiation:

\*Sanctification:

\*Atonement:

I. God Made His Righteousness Available… (3:21-26)

1. Through Christ
   1. The way God freely and graciously justifies any sinner, is not by the works of the Law, but by faith in Christ’s atoning sacrifice-a sacrifice which demonstrates God’s justice in dealing with sin.
   2. God’s righteousness comes through faith, not works (v. 22)
   3. Available to all, not only to Jews but rather to all who believe. All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (3:23)
   4. By Grace: All men are justified freely through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus (3:24)
2. Without Compromising His Justice (3:24-26)
   1. Christ Satisfies God’s Wrath Against Sin (3:25)
   2. God’s Justice and Justification is Satisfied (3:26)
      1. Through redemption (His blood, purchase price)
      2. Through propitiation (Himself as sacrifice to appease God’s wrath)
3. To Sum Up God’s Plan of Making Man Righteous Requires:
   1. All have sinned
   2. Justification
   3. Faith in Jesus
   4. Standing Son-ship (Sanctification)

## 2. Man’s Boasting Eliminated (Romans 3:27-31)

**27 Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. 28 For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law. 29 Or is God *the God* of Jews only? Is He not *the God* of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, 30 since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one. 31 Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law.**

1. Boasting is excluded on the basis of faith and not works (3:27-28)
2. Paul repeats again that a person is declared righteous by faith apart from the works of the law. (3:29-30)

3. The Law: Faith upholds the law (v. 31)

**3. Conclusion**

God has His own unique way of making us acceptable in His sight.

1. God deals with our sin without condoning it or ignoring it.
2. God must wipe away our sin so that we suffer no judgment.
3. God declares us righteous so that we can be acceptable to Him.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Let's pretend that you are a judge and someone you love is on trial. Would you be more tempted to compromise your justice or your love? How can God be both just and gracious at the same time?
2. Can you list some examples in your life that shows that you are currently in the sanctification process?
3. What does it mean for us in the daily struggle of life to know that God has done everything to make us acceptable to Him and we then have done and can do nothing?