**Justified by Faith**

**by Pastor Fee Soliven**

**Romans 3:27-31**

**Wednesday Evening**

**March 20, 2024**

**Romans 3:27-31**

27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. 29 Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also,

30 since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. 31 Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.

**27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith.**

**Hebrews 11:6**

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Saints, in conclusion, Paul writes that there is no room for personal pride. There can be no boasting heritage, law, or works. God’s acquittal is not based on our good deeds. It is based on our faith. Why are we made right with God through faith?

**1. Faith eliminates the pride of human effort, because faith is not a deed that we do.**

**2. Faith exalts what God has done, not what people do.**

**3. Faith admits that we can’t keep the law or measure up to God’s standards—we need help.**

**4. Faith is based on our relationship with God, not our performance for God.**

Saints, most religions prescribe specific duties that must be performed to make a person acceptable to God.

Christianity is unique in teaching that the good works we do will not make us right with God.

No amount of human achievement or progress in personal development will close the gap between God’s moral perfection and our imperfect daily performance.

So there can be no basis for pride. Good deeds are important, but they will not earn us eternal life.

We are saved only by trusting in what God has done for us through Jesus Christ.

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**James 2:18**

But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

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**Ephesians 2:8-10**

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

**29 Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also,**

Saints, Again, the Jews cannot claim sole propriety of God or deny that Gentiles can also receive God’s saving grace. The Old Testament consistently recorded God’s inclusion of the Gentiles in his plans.

**30 since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.**

Saints, God had promised Abraham, “All the families of the earth will be blessed through you” Paul simply states the logical necessity.

**Genesis 12:3**

“I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

**31 Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.**

Saints, Paul envisions the Jewish critic raising a valid question:

If we emphasize faith, does this mean that we can forget about the law?

Paul answers, Of course not! In fact, only when we have faith do we truly fulfill the law.

The law is not something that only the Jews can “do” for God; the law is for both Jews and Gentiles and can only be “done” through faith in Christ.

Saints, faith returns the law to its proper place and role in God’s plan for people.

Faith does not wipe out the Old Testament; rather, it makes God’s dealings with the Jewish people understandable.

**Galatians 3:24-29**

24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. 26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

**1 Timothy 1:8**

“But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully…”

Saints, Soon and Very soon, Jesus is about to appear, we are almost out of here!

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**1 Corinthians 15:50-54**

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

**Acts 2:38-39**

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**Let's Pray!**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace." '**