

COME TO TERMS WITH
THE CROSS

ROMANS 3:21–26

“the most important paragraph ever written”

DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. **con•dem•na•tion** *noun*

a legal term that refers to the act of pronouncing someone to be guilty, of sentencing someone to punishment

Scripture Reading
ROMANS 3:21–26

What “*the most important paragraph ever written*” says

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3. God can give you the gift of his righteousness *freely* (verses 24–25).

DEFINITION OF TERMS

2. **jus•ti•fi•ca•tion** *noun*

the opposite of condemnation; the legal status of being not guilty—innocent; a decisive declaration by God that someone is forever righteous in his sight

DEFINITION OF TERMS

3. re•demp•tion *noun*

a business term describing liberation from captivity; paying a ransom to free a prisoner or a slave

DEFINITION OF TERMS

4. **pro•pi•ti•a•tion** *noun*

a gift that appeases the anger of God; a blood sacrifice that completely exhausts God's wrath so that he is no longer indignant but favorable

THE MAIN POINT OF ROMANS 3:21–26

Because Jesus gave his life to redeem slaves to sin and death, and because Jesus spilled his blood to propitiate God's just wrath against law-breakers, God can freely justify every condemned sinner who trusts Jesus.

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 - *The cross billboards that God is righteous in forgiving sinners today.*

“God can be just and sinners justify,
For Jesus bled God’s wrath to satisfy.
My sins the spikes that nailed Christ to the tree:
God’s justice there for all the world to see.”

LIFE APPLICATIONS

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- You cannot be justified before God on the basis of good works—by being a good person or even a religious person.
- You cannot be justified before God simply by dying.
- You are not justified before God on the basis of your feelings. You might feel “okay with God” and not be. And you might be right with God through faith in Jesus and not feel like it. Don’t trust your feelings.

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3. God can give you the gift of his righteousness *freely* (verses 24–25).
4. God can give you the gift of his righteousness justly (verses 25–26).
5. God’s gift of righteousness comes to those who have *faith* in Jesus (verses 21–26).

DEFINITION OF TERMS

5. **faith** *noun*

personal reliance on the Lord Jesus as Savior; an enduring whole-life commitment to God due to an abiding conviction that he can be fully trusted