

Righteous in Christ before God

Text: But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested... (Romans 3:21)

Question 59: *But how does it help you now that you believe all this?*

Answer: That I am righteous in Christ before God and an heir to life everlasting.

Question 60: *How are you righteous before God?*

Answer: Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments, of never having kept any of them, and of still being inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without any merit of my own, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, and as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me, if only I accept this gift with a believing heart.

I. My Conscience

Even though my conscience accuses me:
of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments,
of never having kept any of them, and
of still being inclined toward all evil,

Romans 3:19

II. My Status

I am righteous in Christ

Romans 3:23-24

III. My Righteousness

Romans 3:19-20

A covenant of works = being "under the law"

To justify

He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the righteous, both of them alike are an abomination to the LORD. (Proverbs 17:15)

IV. His Righteousness

God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ,
as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, and
as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me

Romans 3:21-22

V. My Faith

v22, 25, 26, 28

Application 1: The Power of Faith

Application 2: Our Place in God's Courtroom

boasting?

Application 3: Living Out of This Reality