THE MOST IMPORTANT BOOK IN THE WORLD!

ROMANS

Rom. 3:21:

RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

Paul's Apostleship, the Longsuffering of God and Righteousness

1. God has manifested His Faith/Gift Righteousness through the Apostleship of Paul. (Rom. 3:21)

2. The Longsuffering Goodness of God and the Apostleship of Paul
   --God made the Apostle Paul, God's chief enemy, the pattern for today that leads to righteousness and life. (Rom. 1:1-17)
   --the only other pattern is the pattern of fallen humanity and unbelief that leads to God's wrath and that leads to sin and death (Rom. 1:18-32).

3. To replace the Gift/Faith Righteousness made available through the apostleship of Paul with relative human righteousness is to reject the riches God is dispensing through that apostleship: The Riches of His Goodness, Longsuffering and Forbearance. (Rom. 2:1-16)

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4. **To replace the Gift/Faith Righteousness made available through the apostleship of Paul with relative human righteousness of the Law is to reject the riches God is dispensing through that apostleship: The Riches of His Goodness, Longsuffering and Forbearance. (Rom. 2:17-29)**

5. **IN GOD'S FUTURE COURTROOM: Despising the Message.**

   --Because replacing the Gift/Faith Righteousness made available through the apostleship of Paul with relative human righteousness, even that of the Law, rejects the Riches of God, the only thing you get rich is in wrath unto the Day of Wrath! (Rom. 2:5; 16)

6. **IN MAN'S COURTROOM TODAY: Despising the Messenger.**

   --Trying to call God as a witness to discredit Paul's Apostleship only results in being identified as liars and leads to self-condemnation

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7. Paul's Apostleship doesn't call into question the integrity and veracity of God:
   a. It brings the whole world under sin as sinners, including the Jews. (Rom. 3:9-20)
   b. It manifest/reveals/makes known to them the Righteousness of God. (Rom. 3:21-25)
   c. The main thrust of this passage does not stop with man's redemption in v. 24 but culminates in the declaration of His Righteousness in being Just while justifying sinners in v. 25.

8. It's not all about us. It's all about God and His glory!
   a. We joy in our justification/God is shown to be Just (Rom. 3:24-26).
   b. We joy in our salvation/God delights in us and glorifies His Son in us! (2 Thess. 1:11-12)
   c. We joy in our reconciliation/God makes us into His Righteousness in Christ (2 Cor. 5:21)
   d. We joy in our inheritance in God/God enjoys His inheritance in us! (Eph. 1:10, 18)

9. God's Defends Paul's Distinct Apostleship: BUT NOW RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD by calling the Law and the Prophets into the Witness Box.

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9. The Law and the Prophets can witness to:

   a. God's Character and Being—His eternality, His power, His Righteousness, His Holiness, His Faithfulness, etc.
   b. The utter ruin and sinfulness of fallen humanity, even that of Israel.
   c. The impossibility of humanity under sin producing its own righteousness before God, even under the Mosaic Law System.
   d. The fact that if Israel was to be the Nation God created her to be, God would have to do it based on faith, grace and mercy.
   e. The fact that justification has always been on the basis of faith.
   f. The fact that there is no boasting before God.
   g. The fact that sinners in a Law System always fall under its curses.
   h. The mercy seat and place of propitiation in the Holy of Holies.
   i. The Kinsman-Redeemer concept.