

THE MOST IMPORTANT BOOK IN THE WORLD!

# ROMANS

**Rom. 3:21-26**

**RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD**

# **Paul's Gospel and the Righteousness of God**

- 1. Therefore, contrary to human thinking, declaring sinners right before Him on the basis of the work of Christ on the Cross for them doesn't call God's Righteousness into question. It DECLARES it! (Rom. 3:25-26)**
  - Paul's BUT NOW apostleship declares God's Righteousness through the Riches of His Forbearance in the remitting of past sins.**
  - Paul's BUT NOW apostleship declares His Righteousness NOW in that God is Just while justifying sinners who believe.**
- 2. While learning about our justification is important, it is even more important that we realize that God justified us in a way whereby He could remain God!**
  - otherwise our justification would be worthless.**
- 3. The main point of this passage is not what justification means to us but what it means to God! Paul's Apostleship stands!**
  - Justification by grace through faith displays God's Righteousness in all its glorious aspects.**

# Paul's Gospel and the Old Testament Witness

4. The OT cannot reveal or manifest the Righteousness of God now being revealed through Paul's Apostleship, but it can bear witness to it.
5. In Rom. 1-4, Paul puts the OT into the witness box to demonstrate that what He is preaching is consistent with the one true God of Israel.

	Use of Old Testament	Reference to Death of Christ
Chapters 1-4	Direct and Indirect almost innumerable—>50 times.	4 times, all indirect
Chapters 5-8	Direct and Indirect—maybe 4 times.	At least 31 times, all direct

# **Paul's Gospel and the Old Testament**

- 6. The Old Testament can witness to:
  - a. The Incarnation and Resurrection of Christ (1:3-4).**
  - b. The faithful work of Christ (3:22).**
  - c. The concept of propitiation through blood (Rom. 3:25).**
  - d. The handing over of Christ (Rom. 4:25).****
- 7. But what they could not witness to is the Crucified Christ and His Death as Gospel, as Good News.
  - a. The OT knew of the death of Christ only as bad news (Ps. 22, Is. 53, Mat. 16, Acts 2-3)**
  - b. They knew nothing of the Good News of a crucified Christ!****
- 8. While the OT can bear witness to the Good News of the Incarnation (as fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant) and to the Resurrection (as God's vindication of Him), they could not witness to the Good News of the Death of Christ.**
- 9. The Good News of the Death of Christ was reserved by God for Paul.**

# Paul's Gospel and the Old Testament

## 10. Paul's Gospel unveiled:

- a. Gospel of God (1:1; 15:16)
- b. Gospel of His Son (1:9; 15:19, 29)
- c. Paul's Gospel (2:16; 16:25)
- d. The Gospel of the Grace of God for the Whole World, esp., the Gentiles (Acts 20:24)

11. It is distinctly, uniquely the Gospel or GOOD NEWS about the Death of Christ at the Cross of Christ.

## **ROMANS: The Handbook of Paul's Distinct Apostleship and God's Glory**

- 1. Rom. 1-8: Paul's distinct apostleship's Mystery Truth for the BODY OF CHRIST that the Law and the Prophets can witness to.  
—In Justification, God Declares His Righteousness.**
- 2. Rom. 5-8: Paul's distinct apostleship's Mystery Truth and the BODY OF CHRIST that the Law and the Prophets cannot witness to.  
—In Reconciliation, God Commends His Love Toward Us Because It Is Based on Christ's Death for the ungodly.**
- 3. Rom. 9-11: Paul's distinct apostleship's Mystery Truth with and the NATION OF ISRAEL --In dispensing the riches of His Goodness to the world, esp. the Gentiles, through Israel's unbelief and Fall, God declares His Glory.**
- 4. Rom. 12-16: Paul's distinct apostleship's Mystery Truth and the BODY OF CHRIST's walk declares God's Glory. (Rom. 16:27)**