



God's Solution For The Bad News

Romans 3:21-31

#4 in a series on Romans

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January 2, 2022

Theme: **By grace you have been saved through faith.**

God's Plan From Eternity.

1. Seen in the witness of the Old Testament.
(21; see also Psalm 16; 22; Isaiah 7:14; 52:13; 53; Micah 5:2)
2. Seen in God's merciful restraint in executing full, final judgment on sin.
(25; see also 2:4-6; 2 Peter 3:9; Revelation 2:18-29)

God's Provision In Time.

1. The solution provided.
 - Propitiation — God's righteous anger at our sin is satisfied.
(25; see also Hebrews 2:17; 1 John 2:1; 4:10)
 - Redemption — The believer is bought out of slavery to sin.
(24; see also 6:7, 13, 14; Ephesians 1:7; Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 1:19-20)
 - Justification — The believer is declared righteous. (24, 26, 28, 30)
2. The solution received.
 - By God's grace. (21, 23-24, 27; see also Acts 15:11; Ephesians 2:5, 8-9)
 - Through faith. (22, 25; see also 1:17; 5:1-2; Galatians 3:26; Philippians 3:9)

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. God's solution for the bad news of sin provoking God's righteous anger and our sinfulness is salvation through Jesus Christ. The first key word to understanding salvation we looked at yesterday was propitiation — God's righteous anger at our sin being satisfied and turned away. Review the outline, Scripture verses and any notes you made and then write your own description of what propitiation means. Now reflect on what it cost Christ to be the propitiation for your sins. Thank Him.

Tuesday. The second key word to correctly understand salvation is redemption — the believer being bought out of slavery to sin. Christ's precious blood bought, ransomed you from sin's control, devastation and judgment. As you review the verses on the outline, note both what you were saved from and saved to. Next question: are you as thankful for what you are saved to as you are for what you were saved from?

Wednesday. Justification is God's judicial act of declaring a person righteous when he places his faith in Christ. According to 5:1, what is one of the results of you being justified? While these three key words are not the complete story of what is involved in salvation, review their meaning and implications so they stick with you: propitiation, redemption, justification. Thank God for His great gift of salvation.

Thursday. Salvation is God's gift of His grace to all who receive it. We cannot earn it. It is a gift of God's grace. It is received by faith. Yes, this is basic, but look at this truth with fresh eyes as you read and think through the references to grace and faith on the outline. God has chosen every believer before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4), He draws each one to Himself in time (John 6:44), and every believer chooses to place his or her faith in Him (John 3:16). These go together, even though we cannot understand all the details. Are you being a good and faithful servant of Christ by presenting God's solution to sin to people around you?

Friday/Saturday. On Sunday we plan to look at 4:1-25 where Paul uses Abraham as an illustration of salvation by grace through faith. Read and think through this section as you prepare for our time of worship together.