

Righteousness

(Ps 89:14) Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne;
God is love (1 Jn 4:8, 16), but His Government is built on Righteousness.

Justice is the Application of Righteousness - ever increasing

(Isa 9:7) Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever.

He came and put His Kingdom in us to make us Righteous and the purveyors of Righteousness.

We are made Righteous/Justified (same Greek root) by Faith

(Ro 3:23-26) ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Righteousness has always been by Faith

(Ro 4:3) ³For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” (Gen 15:6)

(Ps 24:3-6) ³Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? ⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully. ⁵He shall receive blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. ⁶This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him, who seek Your face.

requirement for relationship (righteousness)

received from Him through seeking relationship (faith)

Imputed Righteousness

(2Co 5:21) For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Pursued Righteousness

(1Ti 6:11) But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness,

(2Ti 2:22) Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Must understand how both of these work together - 2 Errors (over emphasis)

Works/Performance orientation

Cheap Grace (license ~ licentiousness)

(Ro 6:1-2) ¹What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?

²Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? (2 Cor 5:17)

(Tit 2:11-12) ¹¹For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,

¹²teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,

True Grace never makes us free to sin, but teaches us to be free from sin

How to walk in and pursue righteousness (balance imputed and pursued righteousness)

(Ro 6:11-18) ¹¹Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹²Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. ¹³And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. ¹⁴For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!

¹⁶Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? ¹⁷But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. ¹⁸And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

Reckon = mindset

1. dead to sin - sin has no power over you (faith)
2. alive to God in Christ - abide in His love, joy, peace (Gal 5:16)

from this mindset...

1. resist sin (Gen 4:7)
2. present yourself as a willing slave to God/righteousness (Gal 5:1, Rom 12:1-2)

2 levels of deception that undermine this mindset

1. I can't do it - He can! (faith), why both #2s most important (Jn 15:4-5)
repentance - return to both forms of righteousness (never give up)
2. acceptable sin - dangerous line

(Heb 10:26-29) ²⁶For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. ²⁸Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

(Ro 8:2) For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

(Jn 8:31-36) ³¹Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³²"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

³³They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, 'You will be made free'?" ³⁴Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵"And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. ³⁶"Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

We can be free if we can believe Him (faith)