

# ***IMPORTANCE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, REDEMPTION, AND SALVATION:***

## **UNDERSTANDING RIGHTEOUSNESS:**

What does it mean to be Righteous?

What does it mean to have the righteousness of Christ imputed upon us?

Why is righteousness important now or in the end times?

Can we be righteous? (Trick question)

Righteousness means to be “right”, “just”, or “straight”.

Righteousness is a forensic term – “declare right” “treat as just” “to do justice” “to vindicate” or “to justify.” (EDT)

**RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD - GOD ALONE IS RIGHTEOUS** – this is a key concept to God’s character. God is right, man is not. Romans 3:23 – “All have sinned and fallen short of God’s glory.” God is perfect, right and just in all of His Ways.

## **MAN’S RIGHTEOUSNESS & UNRIGHTEOUSNESS –**

- God made us “very good.” There was a sin of righteousness or goodness in us at creation. Part of that goodness remains, but sin has tainted all of humanity and creation. Simply put we are fallen in nature...we are sinful to the core.
- Man’s unrighteousness has been passed down to all of humanity through Adam.
- This requires salvation and is the core reason we need a “Redeemer.”
- After salvation we become saved (regeneration) and become a “New Creation.” As a result we are to produce “good works.” This is a “righteousness” by process called “Sanctification” in which we strive to become more and more Christ like.

## **RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST**

- Christ got right what Adam couldn’t. Christ was righteous in the flesh. He is the God – Man. Fully God, Fully Man, Fully Righteous.
- Jesus fulfilled God’s law for man perfectly.

## **RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST IMPUTED UPON MAN-**

- Those in Christ are declared Righteous before God...not own their own merit, but based on what Christ did on their behalf.
- This means all in Christ will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ – righteous – in Right Standing with God.
- Righteousness is credited to the believer.

## **RIGHTEOUSNESS IS IMPORTANT:**

- Righteousness is an integral part of God’s Character
- Righteousness is important to our salvation.
- Righteousness is important to guiding our lives
- Righteousness is important on the Day of Judgment
- Righteousness of God and the Saints plays a role in the book of Revelation.

*Ephesians. 4:20-24* “But that is not how you learned about the Messiah, 21 assuming you heard Him and were taught by Him, because the truth is in Jesus: 22 you took off your former way of life, the old man that is corrupted by deceitful desires; 23 you are being renewed in the spirit of your minds; 24 you put on the new man, the one created according to God's [likeness] in righteousness and purity of the truth.”

## **UNDERSTANDING REDEMPTION:**

What does it mean to redeem?

Why do we need redeeming?

Why will God let you into His Heaven?

How good does one have to be to enter Heaven?

What requirements does God have for entrance into Heaven?

Redemption implies there is a redeemer and a need for a redeemer.

Redemption is about salvation but more specific because it describes salvation's achievement by the payment of a ransom.

To be redeemed is to be ransomed - purchased back – delivered.

The word redemption is related to the act of purchase in a slave market.

(Grudem) Because we are sinners we need some one to redeem us from our sinful nature or fallen state. We are in need of being redeemed from the bondage of sin, self and Satan's influence over us. The ransom of Christ is the price that was paid to redeem (free or deliver) us from the bondage of sin that holds us captive.

## **THINGS WE ARE REDEEMED FROM: Sin, Satan, and Self**

Penalty of sin – death. (Romans 3:23 & Romans 6:23a)

Curse of the Law (Genesis)

Delivered from the bondage of sin (Hebrews 2:15)

Delivered from the dominion of darkness (Colossians 1:13)

Delivered from Satan's influence. (1 John 5:19)

Jesus' life was a work of redemption...a ransom for many. (Mark 10:45)

Blood was the payment of God's redeeming work...Jesus life for yours.

- He bore our sin
- He paid the penalty of our sin
- He was our substitute

Savior denotes that Christ saved us. But Redeemer speaks of the purchase of salvation and the great and personal cost that Christ had to pay on the cross on our behalf.

*1 Peter 2:23-25* when reviled, He did not revile in return; when suffering, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to the One who judges justly. 24 He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness;

by His wounding you have been healed. 25 For you were like sheep going astray, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

**Psalm 13:5** - But I have trusted in Your faithful love; my heart will rejoice in Your deliverance.

### **UNDERSTANDING SALVATION: (Read Grudem for greater explanations)**

Soteriology is the theological terms for “Salvation”. It implies medical aspects...to be made whole or well. So it is like a “Spiritual Healing.”

Salvation is literally saving mankind from the effects of sin. (Romans 6:23)

Salvation is a process of being saved, we are saved, we will be saved.

Salvation comes in types of stages: Regeneration, Conversion, Justification, Adoption, Sanctification, Glorification.

- **Regeneration** is a work of God in which we are “Born Again.” It changes our Nature – our SIN STATE is removed and we are made “NEW.” However, we still live in the flesh and fallen world. This is work of God, something only He can do.
- **Conversion** happens simultaneously with Regeneration in my opinion. We are converted by coming to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Instantly Christ regenerates us or we become born again. Regeneration is the work of God, Conversion is our choosing out of free will to accept Christ work of salvation. We call this getting “Saved” or “Placing our Trust in Jesus” or “Having Faith in Christ.” I.E. John 3:16 – “Whosoever believes” and Romans 10:13 “Whoever calls on the name of the Lord.” Conversion requires repentance and faith (belief). This is a decision and experience of free will responding to God’s calling.
- **Justification** – This is God’s work of salvation to help us stand right before God. Very similar to Righteousness. Justification is a legal action by God in which He declares us right and it is an act of Justice. We are declared righteous. This happens at the moment of Regeneration and Conversion...this is not just something that happens at Judgment Day. It is important to understand when we study the Judgment in Revelation that our justification took place at the moment we became “Saved.” This is a standing we have with God. **Genesis 15:6** Abram believed the LORD, and He credited it to him as righteousness.
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- **Adoption** – we are children of God. At the moment we are regenerated, converted and justified we are adopted as God’s children and sealed by the Holy Spirit. (John 1:12) . Many implications of adoption. We are heirs, co laborers, family etc. We have God’s blessing. As children of God we have privileges...but also expectations. This is a standing we have with God.
- **Sanctification** – This is becoming more and more Christ like. This is the process part of Salvation. You can look at Sanctification as an ongoing way of life. We want to grown in our faith and walk with the Lord. Sanctification begins the moment we become saved (Regenerated/born again). It continues throughout our

life on earth and will not be completed until we are in the full presence of the Lord in all of eternity.

- **Glorification** is when we receive our glorified bodies and dwell perfectly with the Lord. This is when sins effect and hold are gone.

**John 3:16-18** – Born again (Regeneration); Salvation; Condemnation etc.

**Ps 62:6-7** He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I will not be shaken. My salvation and glory depend on God; my strong rock, my refuge, is in God.

## **SCRIPTUREAL SUPPORT OF REDMPTION, SALVATION, AND RIGHTEOUSNESS:**

### **Galatians 3:26-4:7**

3:26 for you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to the promise. 4:1 Now I say that as long as the heir is a child, he differs in no way from a slave, though he is the owner of everything. 2 Instead, he is under guardians and stewards until the time set by his father. 3 In the same way we also, when we were children, were in slavery under the elemental forces of the world. 4 But when the completion of the time came, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba, Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

- How do we put on Christ according to this passage? What does this say about Baptism?
- What does it mean to you that you are a child of God?
- What promise are we heir too? What is the significant connection to Abraham?
- What does it mean to be a slave?

### **Isaiah 61:10**

10 I greatly rejoice in the LORD, I exult in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation and wrapped me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom wears a turban and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

- What will it be like to be clothed in the righteousness of Christ?
- How do we put on our new clothes?
- How will God see us?

***What role does Faith play in all of this?***

(Clothes, Family, inheritance, descendant, slave)