

**The Gift of Righteousness**  
Love-Impact Manual  
**Lesson 3**

Do you desire to live confident before God without \_\_\_\_\_? Do you desire to live life secure in God's \_\_\_\_\_? God desires the same for you. Through what Christ purchased at the Cross, we can live confident and secure in God's acceptance and approval – and it's not dependent on our \_\_\_\_\_. It's vital that as believers we understand the gift of righteousness that we receive in Christ.

The moment we came into faith in Christ, we came into \_\_\_\_\_ with His death, burial, and resurrection, giving us a whole new status before God. We became whole new creatures in Christ. Romans 6 explains in detail what happened.

**Romans 6:3-5**

*3 Are you ignorant of the fact that **all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?***

***4 We were buried therefore with Him by the baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious [power] of the Father, so we too might [habitually] live and behave in newness of life.***

***5 For if we have become one with Him by sharing a death like His, we shall also be [one with Him in sharing] His resurrection [by a new life lived for God].***

It's important to understand that baptism is an \_\_\_\_\_ symbol of what happened the moment you came to faith in Christ. When you came to faith in Christ, you came into union with His death, burial, and resurrection. When Christ died, you died. When Christ was buried, you were buried, and that old sinful nature was dealt with. And when Christ rose from the dead, you rose with Him, a whole new creature with a whole \_\_\_\_\_ – and that nature is righteous. Did you know that God sees you as righteous now? Paul continues to hit this point home in 2 Corinthians.

**2 Corinthians 5:21**

*21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that **we might become the righteousness of God in Him.***

**2 Corinthians 5:21**

*21 For our sake He made Christ [virtually] to be sin Who knew no sin, so that **in and through Him we might become [endued with, viewed as being in, and examples of] the righteousness of God [what we ought to be, approved and acceptable and in right relationship with Him, by His goodness].***

AMP

**ANDREW WOMMACK'S COMMENTARY**

Jesus became what we were and suffered what we should have suffered **so that we could become what He is and experience what He has.**

The moment you came to faith in Christ, your status before God completely \_\_\_\_\_ – you became righteous in His sight. There was an \_\_\_\_\_ that took place at the Cross. Jesus took on all that you deserved, so that you could take on all that He deserves. Are you getting this? Our sinfulness was exchanged for His righteousness. We have a whole new nature with a whole new status. Paul continues to share about the free gift of \_\_\_\_\_ in

Romans 5. This gospel is so so good!

### **Romans 5:17-19**

*17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those **who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the one, Jesus Christ.***)

*18 Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, **even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life.***<sup>19</sup> *For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by **one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.***  
AMP

### **ANDREW WOMMACK'S COMMENTARY**

Some people think it is our individual acts of sin that make us sinners, but that is not what Paul was saying in these verses. These scriptures clearly state that Adam's one sin made all people sinners (see note 17 at Joh 8:44). It is man's sin nature that produces sins, not their sins that produce a sin nature.

Therefore, those who are trying to obtain righteousness through their actions are totally missing the point. Even if they could stop all their individual sins, they could not change the sin nature that they were born with. That's the reason people must be born again (see note 2 at Joh 3:3).

These scriptures should provide the ultimate argument for righteousness by faith to everyone who believes the Scriptures to be inspired by God. Paul repeatedly said that believers are made righteous through faith in Christ, independently of their actions, in the same way that all were made sinners, not through their individual sins, but through Adam's one sin.

In the verses above, Paul states that by "one Man's \_\_\_\_\_ many will be made righteous." I want to emphasize that it's only by one Man's obedience that you've been made righteous – and it's not your obedience. Christ's obedience at the Cross makes you righteous in God's eyes. Now that's good news!

In Romans 10, Paul describes two types of righteousnesses: God's righteousness and \_\_\_\_\_. Self-righteousness is a deceptive trap. It's the idea that you can perform and do enough good works for God to see you as righteous. The truth is you could never do enough good works to make you righteous in God's sight. It's only by Christ's obedience at the Cross that we become righteous. Read below...

### **Romans 10:1-4**

*Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.<sup>2</sup> For I bear them witness that **they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.**<sup>3</sup> For they **being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.**<sup>4</sup> For **Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.***

In the old covenant, before Christ, we were under the law. God gave us the law to show us that we could never perform good enough to be righteous in His sight. In one sense, He set us up for \_\_\_\_\_! The law was given to show us our need for Christ and the gift of His righteousness. After Christ died in our place, He gave us the gift of righteousness – setting us free from having to perform under the law. He \_\_\_\_\_ the law on our behalf. It's time to release ourselves from

performance-thinking and receive the free gift of God. Christ's work made us righteous, accepted, and approved in His sight. In Galatians 2, Paul clearly points us away from performance, to Christ's finished work on the Cross – making us righteous.

**Galatians 2:21**

*I do not set aside the grace of God; **for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.***

When we understand that we've been made righteous in God's sight, we received peace, followed by joy in the Holy Spirit. Read below...

**Romans 5:1**

*THEREFORE, SINCE **we are justified (acquitted, declared righteous, and given a right standing with God) through faith**, let us [grasp the fact that we] have [the peace of reconciliation to hold and to enjoy] **peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed one).*

AMP

**Romans 14:17**

*17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but **righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.***

It's so freeing when we understand that we've been made righteous apart from our works! It sets us free to receive from God as righteous and approved in His sight. You are worthy to receive \_\_\_\_\_. You are worthy to receive \_\_\_\_\_ provision. You are worthy to move in \_\_\_\_\_. Christ has made you worthy!

Now I want to clarify a few things. Some hear this message taught and immediately assume that we are saying that Christians have a a free license to \_\_\_\_\_, and there's no consequence. That is FARTHEST from the truth! As Christians we have a whole new nature – and it's righteous, so SIN IS \_\_\_\_\_ OF OUR TRUE NATURE. If we begin living a lifestyle of sin, we're walking in a false identity. Our identity in Christ is righteous. As Christians we don't desire to sin, it's not a part of our DNA anymore. Since becoming born again, our minds are being \_\_\_\_\_ to the truth of our new identity in Christ. We're learning how to walk and live out His righteousness as a lifestyle. But it's important to remember that there's no \_\_\_\_\_ for those who are in Christ.

**Romans 8:1**

*Therefore, there is now **no condemnation** for **those who are in Christ Jesus,***

The enemy condemns us, but the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ us. A lot of believers hear condemning thoughts, even thinking that God is telling them these things. God is not condemning you! Condemnation comes from \_\_\_\_\_ and is meant tear you down. Condemnation continually points out what a failure you are, and how badly you've messed up. Here's the difference between condemnation and conviction: condemnation shows you the \_\_\_\_\_ (the sin, the past, and your failures), and conviction shows you the \_\_\_\_\_ (forgiveness and acceptance by the blood of Jesus, your righteousness, and your true identity). As blood bought believers, we are free from condemnation, and we have a wonderful Holy Spirit who calls us into our true identity and receiving the freedom that was purchased for us!

God invites us to live a lifestyle free from condemnation and unworthiness,

\_\_\_\_\_ in His acceptance and approval – because of one Man's obedience. When we catch the revelation of the gift of His righteousness, it enables us to receive all God desires to give us – because we know we are \_\_\_\_\_ in His sight. Let's own our rightful status in Christ, righteous and worthy!

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Jesus I believe Your Word. I choose to believe that because of Your obedience for me on the Cross, my status is righteous before God. I choose to repent for any self-righteousness and for looking at myself to determine my status before God, rather than your finished work.

Holy Spirit I welcome you to establish me in the reality of my righteousness in Christ. I choose to believe that I'm worthy, accepted, and approved, because of all You did for me.

Thanks for paying the price to make me righteous. In Jesus Name, amen.

### **QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION**

Can you see the difference between condemnation and conviction? Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight areas where condemnation has harassed you.

In the light of the gift of righteousness purchased at the Cross, ask the Holy Spirit what He desires to say to you regarding each of those areas you've felt condemned. What does He have to say?

Can you see the difference between self-righteousness and the gift of righteousness? Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight areas where you have been burdened by self-righteousness.

In the light of the gift of righteousness purchased at the Cross, it's time to make a shift: from looking at yourself to determine your righteousness, to looking at what Christ has already done. Ask the Father if He has anything to say to you regarding this.