

## The Problem of Trying To Be Right

St. Joseph Island Free Methodist Church  
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### **Romans 10:2-4 (ESV)**

“2 For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. 3 For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”

### **What does “Righteousness” mean?**

Righteousness is defined as “the character or quality of being right or just”. Originally the word was spelled “rightwiseness”. Essentially, it means being “right” in God’s sight.

### **In the Bible, Israel and the Jews are often compared to the church and can offer valuable lessons for us today.**

1. We can be \_\_\_\_\_ of the righteousness that comes from God v2-3  
Romans 9:30-32 and Galatians 3:1-3

- . We have to \_\_\_\_\_ to the righteousness that comes from God v3  
Romans 10:5

3. Christ is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Law for righteousness for believers v4  
Romans 11:6

“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.”

-Romans 10:9-10 (ESV)

## Verses for Further Study

### **1 Cor 1:30-31 (ESV)**

“And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

### **2 Cor. 5:21 (ESV)**

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

### **Galatians 2:15-21 (ESV)**

“We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.”

### **Genesis 15:6 (NLT)**

“And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith.” (He was justified (made right with God) by the same means as we are)

### **Romans 3:20-31 (AV)**

“Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also: Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith. Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.”

**“Faith is the cause of God’s declaration... so both Jew and Gentile find acceptance with God in the same way, through a personal committal to Him,**

**a personal trust in Him.”**

-Wycliffe Bible Commentary, on Justification