

Credited
for
Righteousness

FAITH THAT TRUSTS



ROMANS 3:21 – 4:17

But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been revealed, attested by the Law and the Prophets. The righteousness of God is through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe, since there is no distinction. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. They are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. God presented him as an atoning sacrifice in his blood, received through faith, to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his restraint God passed over the sins previously committed. God presented him to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so that he would be righteous and declare righteous the one who has faith in Jesus.

ROMANS 3:21 – 4:17

Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By one of works? No, on the contrary, by a law of faith. For we conclude that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law. Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. Do we then nullify the law through faith? Absolutely not! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

ROMANS 3:21 – 4:17

What then will we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found? If Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about—but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? **Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him for righteousness.** Now to the one who works, pay is not credited as a gift, but as something owed. But to the one who does not work, but believes on him who declares the ungodly to be righteous, his faith is credited for righteousness.

ROMANS 3:21 – 4:17

Just as David also speaks of the blessing of the person to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:

**Blessed are those whose lawless acts are forgiven
and whose sins are covered.**

**Blessed is the person
the Lord will never charge with sin.**

ROMANS 3:21 – 4:17

Is this blessing only for the circumcised, then? Or is it also for the uncircumcised? For we say, **Faith was credited to Abraham for righteousness.** In what way then was it credited—while he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? It was not while he was circumcised, but uncircumcised. And he received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while still uncircumcised. This was to make him the father of all who believe but are not circumcised, so that righteousness may be credited to them also. And he became the father of the circumcised, who are not only circumcised but who also follow in the footsteps of the faith our father Abraham had while he was still uncircumcised.

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For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would inherit the world was not through the law, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. If those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made empty and the promise nullified, because the law produces wrath. And where there is no law, there is no transgression.

ROMANS 3:21 – 4:17

This is why the promise is by faith, so that it may be according to grace, to guarantee it to all the descendants—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of Abraham’s faith. He is the father of us all. As it is written: I have made you the father of many nations. He is our father in God’s sight, in whom Abraham believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls things into existence that do not exist.

ROMANS 3:21 – 4:17

He believed, hoping against hope, so that he became the father of many nations according to what had been spoken: So will your descendants be. He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body to be already dead (since he was about a hundred years old) and also the deadness of Sarah's womb. He did not waver in unbelief at God's promise but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, because he was fully convinced that what God had promised, he was also able to do.

ROMANS 3:21 – 4:17

Therefore, it was credited to him for righteousness. Now “it was credited to him” was not written for Abraham alone, but also for us. It will be credited to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

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What is our need?

We all fall short

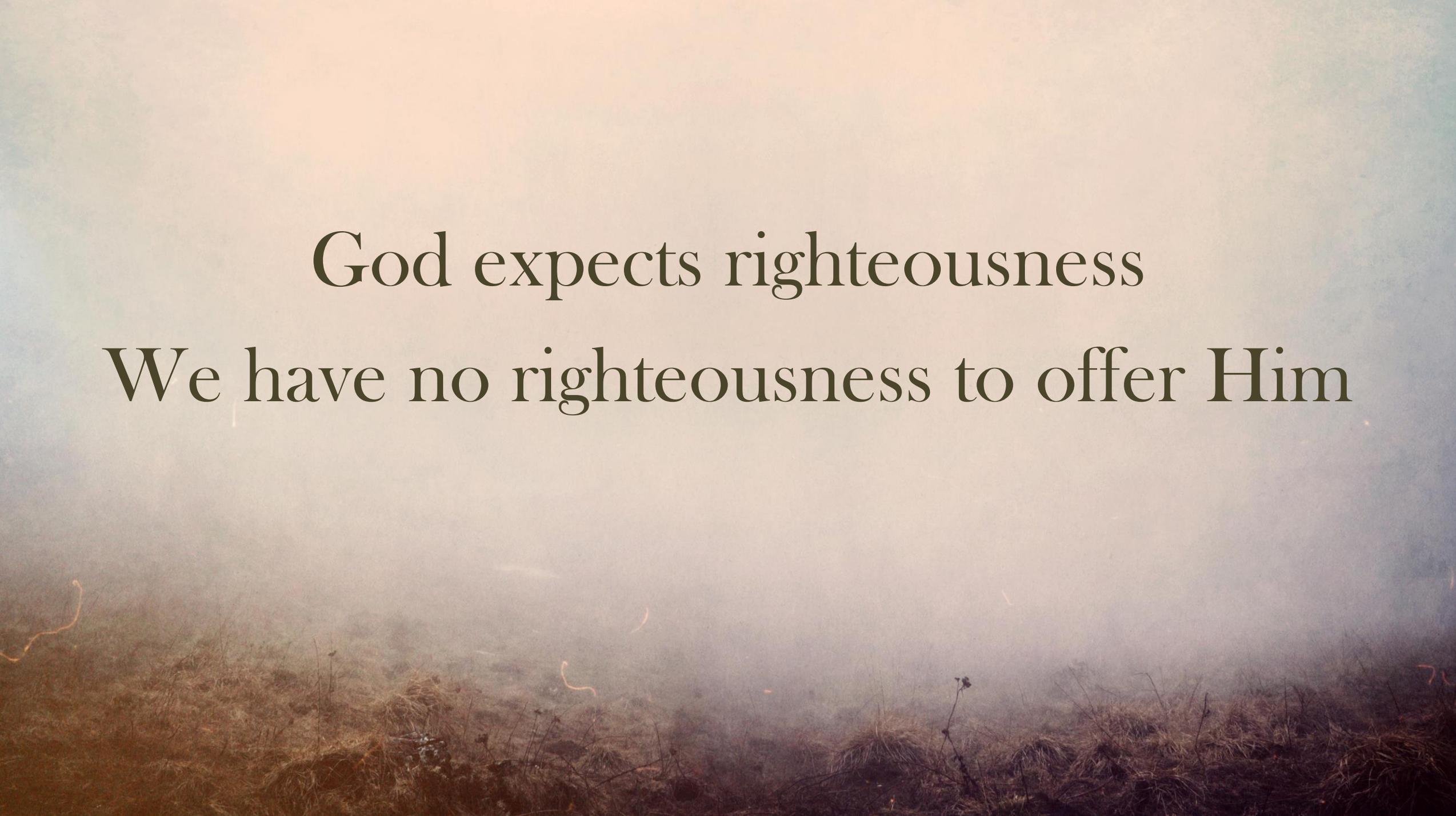
“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

God is holy

“Be holy, because I am holy.”

God has given us guidance

The Ten Commandments

A misty, hazy landscape with dry grass in the foreground and a soft, glowing light source in the background. The text is centered in a dark, serif font.

God expects righteousness

We have no righteousness to offer Him

What does faith accomplish?

God has made it possible for us to share in the righteousness of Christ. Faith is the trigger.

Jesus' earthly accomplishments:

Active Obedience- Complete obedience to the law and to the Father

Passive Obedience- Accepting punishment he did not deserve

How can we share in Christ's obedience?

We can't work for it

We can't earn it

We trust him to give it to us, because he said he would.

What is faith?

Faith requires:

- An object to believe in- Objective truth, *facts*
- Assent- Agreement that the facts are *really true*
- Trust- Risking negative consequences

This kind of faith is not natural
It's available to us only as a gift of
God's grace

For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not
from yourselves; it is God's gift— not from works, so that
no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8,9

How can I stand in God's presence?

Two possible answers:

Because *I...* That's the wrong answer. I am helpless to make myself acceptable to God.

Because *Christ...* He has already done everything necessary

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