Getting Right With God

**Reading – Galatians 2:20-3:6**

Getting Right with God is a concept that is hard to do. ***(Romans 3:23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,***

***(Isaiah 64:6) But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousness are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.***

***(Proverbs 14:12) There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.***

***(2 Peter 2:1-15) There were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.... {3} By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words... {9} Then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, {10} and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority***… ***They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, {11} whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord. {12} But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption, {13} and will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime… They are spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, {14} having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children. {15} They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam ... who loved the wages of unrighteousness;***

Remaining right with God is even harder. ***(Hebrews 6:4-6) For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, {5} and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, {6} if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.***

God simply expects a reasonable service ***(Romans 12:1) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.***

**righteousness is not earned like wages**

God's righteousness is to be found in a system involving justification by an active faith and not by keeping the works of the Old Law. ***(Romans 4:1-8)***

## universal righteousness

Abraham was the perfect model of a believer. ***(Romans 4:9-12)*** Abraham serves as a father of all who believe, whether circumcised or not.

Paul then reminds them that the promise that Abraham was to be “a father of many nations” ***(Romans 4:13-17)***

**nature of righteousness is in forgiveness [justification]**

Look at the nature of Abraham's obedient faith. ***(Romans 4:18-22)***

By having the same kind of faith we too can have imputed righteousness. ***(Romans 4:23-25.***

 ***(Matthew 25:21) "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'***

 ***(1 Corinthians 6:19-20) Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? {20} For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.***

***(Matthew 28:19-20) "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, {20} "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you…***