



GRACE GOSPEL MINISTRY

Liberating / Grace

RIGHTEOUSNESS

The Greek word *theek·eh·os·een·ee* translated “righteousness”, is best defined simply as the standard of God’s perfection. It denotes that which is just, right or holy. In this view, absolute perfection is defined as "holiness" and only God possesses this attribute. The Bible teaches that God alone is Holy within His character and makeup; thus it is an attribute that is unique only to God.

The word “righteousness” cannot be expressed as a relative term or a comparison indicator. It is an absolute expression void of variables of degrees, thus either one is righteous (100%) or unrighteous (0%). Righteousness and perfection is neither inherent nor acquirable by sinful mankind (Romans 3:10, 23). God must judge and condemn the sinner because He (God) is Holy and His justice demands that He rejects all that is unrighteous (Romans 1:18; 2:8; 3:5).

Righteousness cannot be obtained by ones meritorious actions but only through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ (Romans 3:22), thus our salvation is obtained through the meritorious works of Jesus Christ and His righteousness. Many err in like manner as did the nation Israel in seeking

to establish a standard other than the righteousness of God (Romans 10:3). Righteousness cannot be defined by the quality of what man exhibits but solely by the essence of Jesus Christ as the sacrifice for the sin of mankind. Accordingly, righteousness, holiness, pureness, goodness, etc., are all attributes of God that are conferred on the believer through identification with the faithfulness of Jesus Christ (Philippians 3:9). Our righteousness is in His alone. See: "Exegesis of Romans 3:21-23".