Sermon Notes – 01.09.2022 – The Righteousness of God – Part 2

Psalms 48:10 **As is Your name, O God, So is Your praise to the ends of the earth; Your right hand is full of righteousness**.

Matthew 5:6 "**Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied**

Revisit From the Word Last week – The Righteousness of God through Faith in Jesus Christ

Romans 3:21-23 But **now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets**, 22 **even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe**; for there is no distinction; 23 **for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,**

Romans 3:24-26 being **justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus**; 25 whom **God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness**, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for **the demonstration, *I say,* of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.**

Every Good and Perfect Gift

James 1:17-18 Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow. 18 In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

Self-Righteousness is Almost Always Manifested with Pride

The whole Book of the Prophet Isaiah is Filled with Denunciations from God Against their wicked, proud and hypocritical exercise of the very things God commanded them to do.

Isaiah 1:11-19 "What are your multiplied sacrifices to Me?" Says the LORD. "I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams And the fat of fed cattle; And I take no pleasure in the blood of bulls, lambs or goats. 12 "When you come to appear before Me, Who requires of you this trampling of My courts? 13 "**Bring your worthless offerings no longer**, Incense is an abomination to Me. New moon and sabbath, the calling of assemblies—I cannot endure iniquity and the solemn assembly. 14 "I hate your new moon *festivals* and your appointed feasts, They have become a burden to Me; I am weary of bearing *them.* 15 "So when you spread out your hands *in prayer,* I will hide My eyes from you; Yes, even though you multiply prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are covered with blood. 16 "**Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Remove the evil of your deeds from My sight. Cease to do evil, 17 Learn to do good; Seek justice, Reprove the ruthless, Defend the orphan, Plead for the widow**. 18 "**Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow**; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool. 19 "If you consent and obey, You will eat the best of the land;

The Righteousness of Christ Imparted to Us By Grace is Manifested in Humility

> **James 4:6** But He gives a greater grace. Therefore *it* says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

Hearing and Doing the Word

James 1:19-27 *This* you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak *and* slow to anger; 20 for **the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.** 21 **Therefore,** putting aside all filthiness and *all* that remains of wickedness, **in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls**. 22 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; 24 for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. 25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the *law* of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does. 26 If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his *own* heart, this man's religion is worthless. 27 Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of *our* God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, *and* to keep oneself unstained by the world.

- **Note the connection between Isaiah and this passage "Your religion is worthless**
- **Our "religion" will not be worthless in the sight of God and a watching world**
  - **If we confess that we are unable to be righteous in ourselves**
  - **If we receive the righteousness of Christ as God's Gift to those who humbly seek Him**

Righteousness is not passive – We are going to "Practice" Something

Ezekiel 45:9 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Enough, you princes of Israel; put away violence and destruction, and **practice justice and righteousness**. Stop your expropriations from My people," declares the Lord GOD.

The Righteousness of Christ at Work in Us Produces the Practice

The Practice Does Not Produce the Righteousness of Christ

Philippians 2:12-16 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your salvation with fear and trembling;** 13 **for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure**. 14 **Do all things without grumbling or disputing; 15 so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world**, 16 holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.