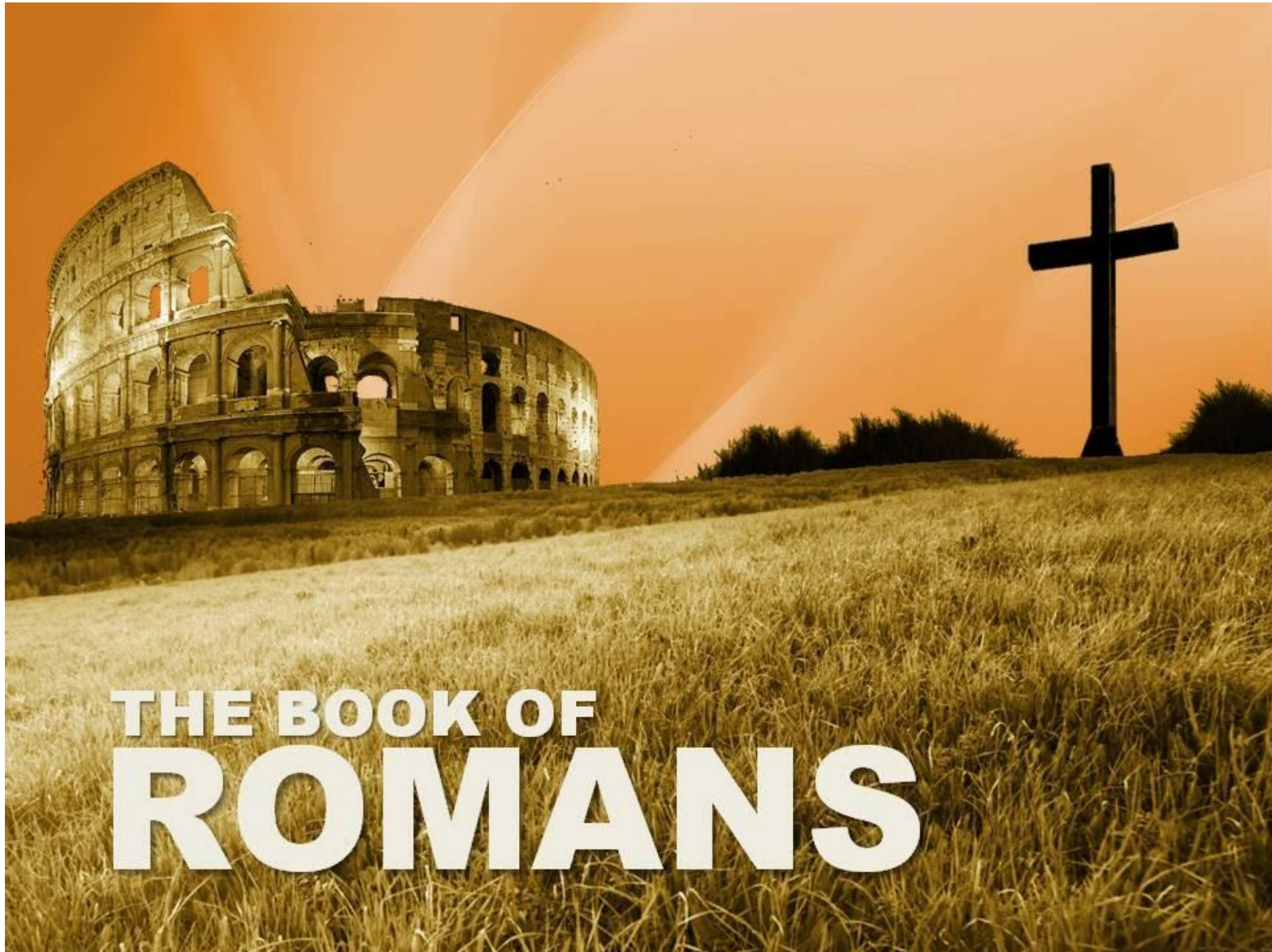




Rom 3:27-28 Man is Humbled by God's Grace in Salvation



God's Righteousness in Man's Salvation



Rom 1:17 For in it [the Gospel] *the righteousness of God* is revealed from faith to faith;

Rom 3:21 But now apart from *the Law* [a law system] *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,

²⁴ 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 [*righteous*] and the justifier of [*declare righteous*] the one who has faith in Jesus.³

What commentators say about Romans 3:21-31



- Romans 3:21-31 is the heart of Romans, the New Testament and the entire Bible. McCalley
- Romans 3:24 is the critical verse in this passage. McCalley
- The Apostle Paul [in verses 23 to 26] describes that divine undertaking which is a complete and final salvation, and in a manner which is without doubt the most perfect and all-inclusive proclamation of it. Chafer
- We now come to the greatest single verse [verse 24] in the entire Bible on the manner of justification by faith: We entreat you, study this verse. We have seen many a soul, upon understanding it, come into peace. Newell

God's Method of Salvation*



Its Nature – verses 21 to 23

- a. Salvation is apart from works and it's by faith alone
- b. Salvation is to all men because all sinned

Its Basis – verses 24 to 25

- a. Salvation's basis is redemption
- b. and propitiation

Its Purpose – verse 26

To demonstrate the righteousness of God

Its Results – verses 27 to 31

- a. It humbles man
- b. It glorifies God
- c. It confirms the Law of Moses

* McCalley

GREAT DOCTRINES RELATING TO SALVATION

by John B. Marchbanks



- I Repentance.....
- II Conversion.....
- III Regeneration.....
- IV **Redemption.....**
- V **Justification.....**
- VI Forgiveness.....
- VII Assurance.....
- VIII Reconciliation.....
- IX **Propitiation.....**
- X Adoption.....
- XI Sanctification.....
- XII Election.....
- XIII Foreknowledge.....
- XIV Predestination.....
- XV **The Gospel.....**
- XVI **Salvation.....**

The Attributes of God



- Holy
 - Righteous
 - Just
- Infinite
 - Omniscient
 - Omnipresent
 - Omnipotent
- Self Existent
- Love
 - Grace
 - Mercy
- Immutable
 - Faithful
 - Truth
- Spirit
- Sovereign

Is the essential qualities of the Triune God - Who He is !

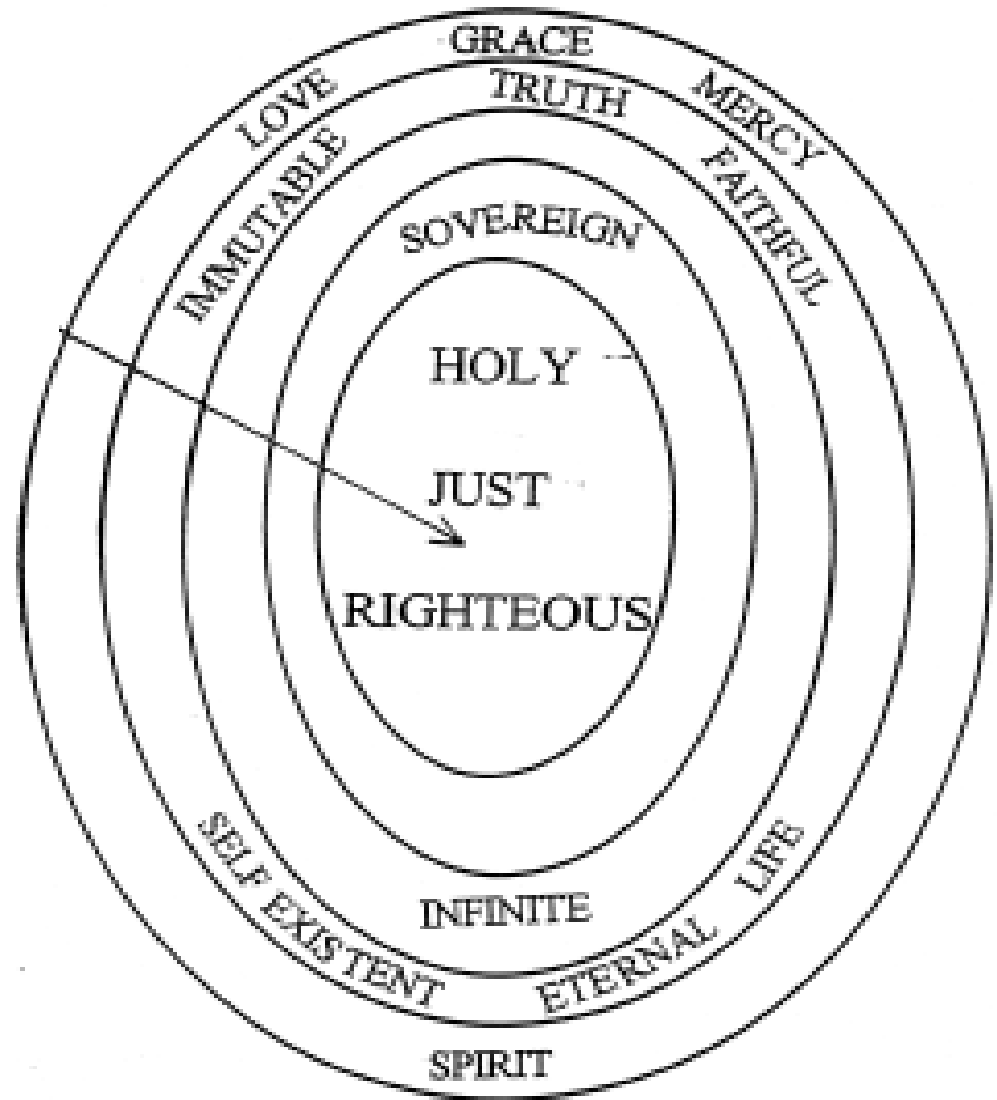
• Example: God is Truth

- Father - John 7:28 “He who sent me is true”
- Son - John 14:6b “I am the way, and the truth, and the life”
- Spirit - 1 John 5:7 “ It is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is the truth”

GOD'S GLORY

Why God's righteousness is so important

- It's the center of God's glory
(Who He is)
- God's righteousness
must judge sin
Rom 3:9 -18
- But God's righteousness
also reveals His grace
in the Gospel
Rom 1:17



Rom 3:21 But now apart from *the Law the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,



But now, apart from law [a law system]

Interlinear

apart from - *chōris* - without, separate from

- God will not use a law system with mankind.
- No set of rule-keeping can achieve a right standing with God.

a righteousness of God has been manifested

- The "righteousness of God" here refers to God's method of bringing people into a right relationship with Himself.
- Next, we will see how God manifested His plan for man's righteousness [it's a past completed action].

Constable



Rom 3:21 But now apart from *the* Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,

being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets

- The Law and the Prophets is used here to refer to the Old Testament Scriptures.
- Paul will discuss Abraham's and David's witness in Chapter 4. [see verses below]
- Rom 4:3 For what does the Scripture say?
"ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS."
- Rom 4:6 just as David also speaks of the blessing on the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works.

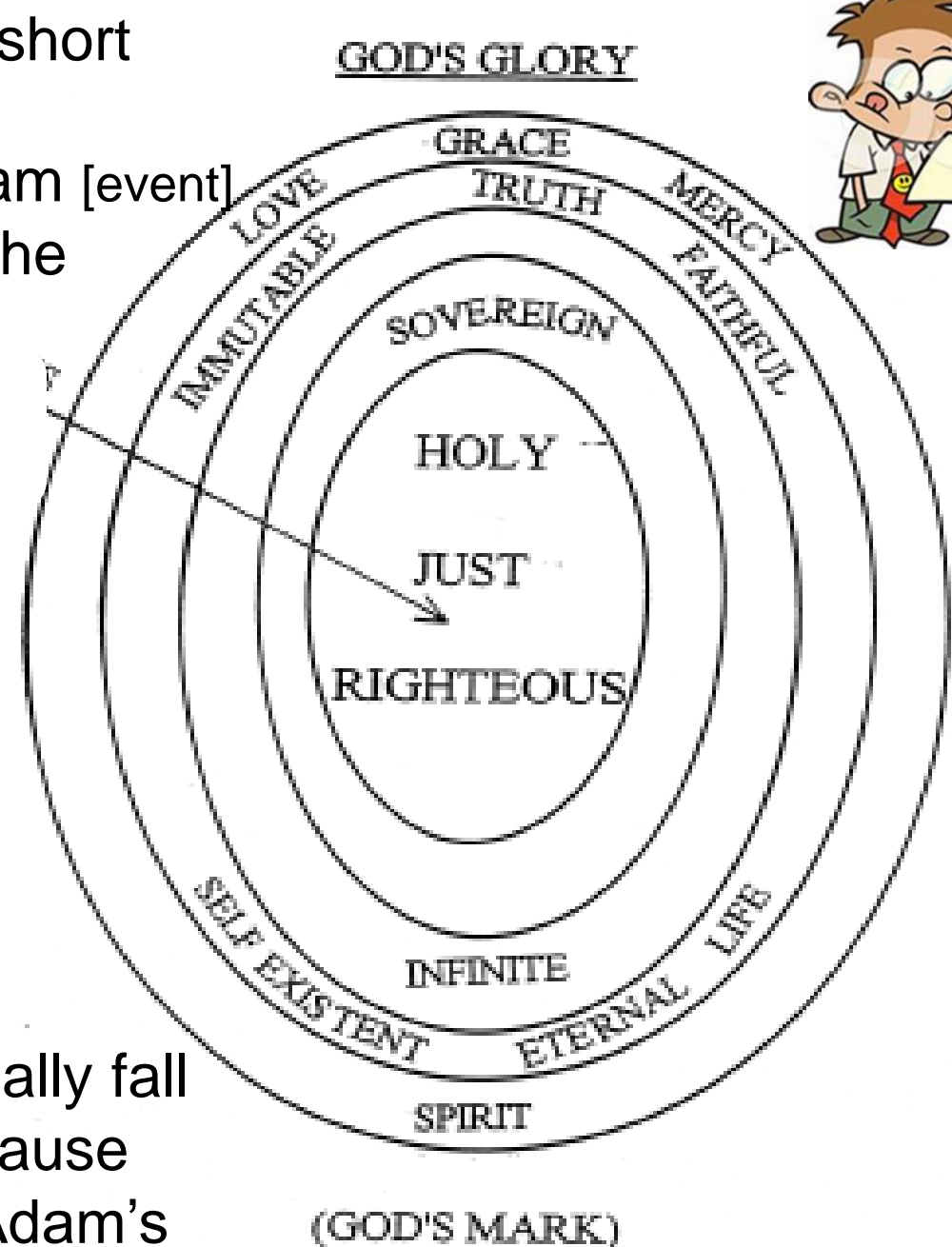


Rom 3:22 even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction;

- God's righteousness becomes man's possession and begins to operate in his life through faith in Jesus Christ. Constable
- Here Paul introduced the object of faith for the first time (i.e. Jesus Christ). Constable
- Understanding God's way of salvation demands a complete break with man's way of thinking. McCalley
- Rom 4:5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness.

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

- All mankind sinned in Adam [event]
- The sin of Adam explain the the sins of his descendants



You continually fall short because you have Adam's Nature



²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

Now God will declare what he has accomplished for man

[All] are justified

Amplified

justified – being declared righteous

- lit: to set right [before God]
- present tense, continuous action
- passive voice, God is doing the action
- root word is *dikaios* (right, righteous, just etc.)

Robertson

The remainder of the verse explains the how and why
as a gift

lit: freely – *dōrean* - freely, gratuitously, without just cause

Wuest

²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;



Now we are told how this could be a free gift
by His grace [*charis*]

Important aspect of God's grace*

- Grace is the unlimited and unmerited blessing of God, based on the totally adequate work of Christ.
- Grace is the single principle by which God operates in the realm of salvation.
- Grace is the principle that demands the meritless act of faith to appropriate its blessings.
- Grace is inexhaustible and embodied in Jesus Christ.
- Grace is free to us at incomprehensible cost to God.



²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus

- Redemption is only found in Christ Jesus
- It's in a living union with Christ Jesus on the basis of our faith.

redemption - *apolytrōsis* - lit. a releasing on payment of a ransom

- The picture is that of all men being in the slave market of sin owing a debt they cannot possibly pay. McCalley
- Christ bought us in this slave market of sin by His own blood.
- Believers are His bond slaves [*exagorazō* - to buy out of the slave market] and are never to be put up for sale again.

Wuest



Today's Verses

27 Where then is boasting? It is excluded.
By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a
law of faith.

28 For we maintain that a man is justified by
faith apart from works of the Law.

27 Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.



Where therefore *is* the boasting?

Interlinear

boasting - *kauchēsis* – glorying, proclaiming one's own goodness and the merit

- The reference here is to the act of boasting - self congratulation McCalley

It [boasting] **was excluded**

excluded - *ekkleiō* - to shut out; ruled out entirely

- aorist – this is an event
- indicative – it's a fact
- passive – this was God's plan

It [boasting] was excluded by the coming in of the revelation of "righteousness by faith."

Wuest

27 Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.



Through what principle?

Interlinear

Only two principles are possible in this verse:

[man's answer] Of works?

- Man's desire from his Adam nature is to show God what he has done.

[Paul's answer] Not at all, but through a principle of faith

- This principle is that salvation becomes ours by faith in Jesus Christ. Faith is what God requires, not works.

Constable

28 For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.



for our reasoned conclusion is Wuest

- The Greek word is *logizomai* - to take account of, put it down as true
- What follows is Paul's settled conviction [about faith] that a man is justified by faith apart from works of law [a law principle]
- Man is declared righteous by faith.
- This is the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ [faith must have an object].
- This righteousness is only possible apart from man's works.
- No set of rule-keeping can achieve a right standing with God.

Works vs. Faith Comparison *



Justification by works

1. Looks at yourself
2. Self congratulating
3. Looks at what I have done
4. Its grounds are in man
5. Glorifies man
6. Results in a man centered
life

Justification by faith

- Looks outside yourself
- Self renouncing
- Looks at what God has done
- Its grounds are in God
- Glorifies God
- Results in a God centered
life

Final Thoughts*



If verse 24 is traced backwards it is seen that:

- Because of Christ's death which satisfies the holy demands of God [which is] against the sinner.
- Then, God's grace (the unrestrained expression of His infinite love) is released toward those who believe.
- And that love will never stop short of a bestowment of the fullness of Christ, which is itself the fullness of the Godhead.
- Since the believer is thus invested with all that infinite holiness can require,
- Then, God, apart from all merit or demerit in the believer, proclaims the one thus invested to be justified forever.

* Chafer

