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## **Where Most Get Stuck**

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**Romans 3:21-31** <sup>21</sup>But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been revealed, as attested by the Law and the Prophets. <sup>22</sup>And this righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup>God presented Him as the atoning sacrifice through faith in His blood, in order to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance He had passed over the sins committed beforehand. <sup>26</sup>He did this to demonstrate His righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and to justify the one who has faith in Jesus. <sup>27</sup>Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of works? No, but on that of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the law. <sup>29</sup>Is God the God of Jews only? Is He not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, <sup>30</sup>since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. <sup>31</sup>Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Certainly not! Instead, we uphold the law. (BSB)

### I. What can we learn from this passage?

- A. A righteousness from God that was **prophesied** in the OT has now been revealed. V. 21
- B. This righteousness is received only by those who have **faith** in Jesus Christ. V. 22-24
- C. The righteousness of God was to make **permanent** the forgiveness that God had given to mankind on a temporary basis. V. 25-26
- D. A child of God is at their core a **recipient** of a gift. This gift is not earned at any level. V. 27-28
- E. This gift is available to **any** human being. V. 29-31

### II. How can we apply these truths?

- A. The beginning place of faith is having the **humility** to admit that we need help from God. This hits at the biggest weakness of humans, our pride.
- B. We need to be able to **defend** God's choice to only save us through the shed blood of the Lamb of God. There really is no other way.
- C. We must seek to know the **Holy Spirit** better.
- D. We must be **guided** by our humility to reach out to others and share our stories.