# RIGHTEOUSNESS BY FAITH

Rom 3:28 (KJV) Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

# **Righteousness by Faith**

# **Dedication**

This book is dedicated to the church of God (the Christians) across the whole world. There is a lot our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ paid for on our behalf through His death and suffering on the cross, and I earnestly believe the key to enjoying these benefits is an understanding of the Righteousness He has procured for us and a firm foundation and relationship with God built on this Righteousness which comes by Faith.

# **Acknowledgment**

My profound gratitude goes to the Almighty God, the Creator of all things, and by whom all things consist, to my Abba Father. The grace and Spirit come from Him. I acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ, my Saviour and the Head of the Church; for His great grace and the privilege of being a messenger of the truth with the help of the Holy Spirit. To him truly be the full glory and honor.

I appreciate my Church, my man of God, Pastor Wunmi for the continued push, and all the wonderful people around me including the awesome members of my family, all of through whom, God has wrought the wonderful masterpiece that I am today. May we forever be kept in the love of our ever-loving Abba. I love you all.

### **Foreword**

I am honored and happy to write the forward to this great book written by our beloved brother.

When I went through the first three pages of this book a while back, I immediately thought it would be very helpful and practical and it had turned out just that.

This book includes interactive features to aid reflection and spark discussion. You will discover the importance of living a righteous life and how righteousness is attained.

This work does not deviate from his form and style which has always been "words easy to comprehend," mixed with scriptural examples.

I'm sure all who read it will be profited thereby, as I was, it will be more advantageous to all.

#### Lasisi Oluwadunsin David

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### Introduction

Righteousness by Faith starts with God's mercy and grace found only in Christ. God designed it in such a way that He is not just being merciful in calling us righteous, but He is also just in justifying us (Romans 3:26). You should know today, that you are forever loved and accepted in Christ. But you may say, what of my sins and transgressions, what of my wrongdoings? Beloved, your sins are washed in the blood of the lamb, our Lord Jesus, and you are also continually being washed in His blood so that you are ever without blemish before our righteous Abba, forever.

This book is written to teach readers to know what righteousness is, how it is attained, the benefits, and how to embrace a no-strings-attached authentic relationship with God. Through the redemption found in the Lord Jesus, God today righteously passes over your sins as He did for the Israelites in the land of Egypt when the destroyer passed over every house with the blood on its lintel and side posts (Exodus 12:23).

# **Chapter 1**

# What is Righteousness by Faith?

Hello, through this writing, we will try to uncover truths from the Bible about righteousness by faith. But before we dive into righteousness by faith, let us take a look at what righteousness is. I believe Righteousness is the state of being right with God, with nothing lacking, where you conform to His will, purposes, and desires. This rightness I also believe comes with peace. Peace with God, and that inner rest that assures you that God is pleased with you. I also believe to be righteous is to be just, such that there is no lawful case or argument to be made against you because you fulfill the law. To be righteous also means to be equitable.

According to Strong's Hebrew and Greek dictionary, to be righteous means to be "equitable (in character or act); by implication innocent, holy (absolutely or relatively): - just, meet, right (-eous)."

According to Thayer's Greek Definitions, the righteous is one "whose way of thinking, feeling, and acting is wholly conformed to the will of God, and who therefore needs no rectification in the heart or life"

So, adding to what Thayer said, we can say the righteous person on one who is wholly acceptable to God. A person who does right, according to God's principles. One who perpetually does good, and no evil, walking in the fear of God. But there is just one problem, none of us was righteous, not a single one! Let's see this from the Scriptures.

Rom 3:10-12 KJV

10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; none doeth good, no, not one.

Ecc 7:20 KJV

20 For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.

Ecc 7:20 ISV

20 ¶ For there is not a single righteous man on earth who practices good and does not sin.

We see from the Scriptures that not a single person is righteous by themselves. From the overt sinner to the openly good, we were all unrighteous, meaning we were all unacceptable to God, not conforming to His will and desires. Now, what about babies and little children you may ask, they have done nothing wrong yet, so how can they be unrighteous? This is because every man, woman, and child inherit it from Adam, and so, there is sin in everyone, except our Lord Jesus, who was not fathered by a mortal man, but by the Everlasting Father Himself, according to the Scriptures:

Luk 1:35 KJV

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Everyone else comes from Adam. Let's see what the Scriptures have to say, starting with the Psalm David wrote after his sin with Bathsheba when Nathan the prophet came to him (you can read the story from 2 Sam 11:1-15, and 12:1-13);

Psa 51:1,5 KJV

1 To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba. Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

5 Behold, I was sharpened in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Then the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Romans:

Rom 3:23 KJV

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Rom 5:12 KJV

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

The principle is simple really, and it is this, the children partake of the deeds of the father, including the blessings of doing good and the punishment of doing evil. Let's see this principle from the Scriptures where Levi (of whom pertains the priesthood of the Old Testament) paid tithes in Abraham to Melchisedec the priest:

Heb 7:9 KJV

9 And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, paid tithes in Abraham.

10 For he was yet in the loins of his father when Melchisedec met him.

And another from the book of Numbers when God was declaring His glory. In it, this principle is clearly laid out:

Num 14:18 KJV

18 The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation.

God seeking a remedy, at a point in time, sent the Law to try to restore what was broken. In the law were laid out commandments for living in the manner which God desired. Below, is the summary of the law according to the Lord Jesus:

Mar 12:29-31 KJV

29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

But the law could not fix what was broken, it could not mend our relationship with God, because man was broken from the heart (Genesis 6:5), and out of the heart proceeds everything else (Proverbs 4:23). The law may seem to curb outward behavior, but it does not mend the heart, of which, God is most interested (1 Samuel 16:7).

Gen 6:5 KJV

5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Pro 4:23 KJV

23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Mat 12:35 KJV

35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

1Sa 16:7 KJV

7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

With the introduction of the law came a new problem, sin multiplied. You see, the law is good, but man is corrupt and sins in the flesh, taking the occasion of the law, basically signing men off to death.

Rom 4:15 KJV

15 Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.

1Co 15:56 KJV

56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

Rom 7:7-8 KJV

7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

8 But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead.

And,

#### Rom 7:19-25 KJV

- 19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.
- 20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.
- 21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.
- 22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:
- 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.
- 24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?
- 25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind, I serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

But thank God indeed through our Lord Jesus that there is a solution, thank God! Let's take a look at the next verses after Romans 7:25:

#### Rom 8:1-4 ESV

- 1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- 2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.
- 3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh.
- 4 so that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

What that means is that we are free from the dominion of sin and death, and we are stripped of our unrighteousness and clothed with God's righteousness which comes only by faith in the finished work of the Lord Jesus on the cross. You see, on the cross, the perfect Savior who was innocent in all accounts was

punished for you and me, so that today, we can be free from unrighteousness and be clothed with His righteousness. On the cross, Jesus took our place and so, took our punishment, and we today, take His place and we put on His righteousness which is a gift. As a Christian, that is, as someone who believes that Jesus paid the price for their sins, you are today, acceptable to God having received the gift of righteousness. It is a gift.

#### Rom 3:28 KJV

28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

#### Rom 5:1 KJV

1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

#### Rom 5:17 KJV

17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

#### Rom 10:5-10 ESV

- 5 For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them.
- 6 But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down)
- 7 "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).
- 8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);
- 9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth, one confesses and is saved.

Pastor Joseph Prince gave an example, and it goes like this. Say you go to the ATM to withdraw some money and you see about \$5 million in your account ( assuming you didn't have close to that before checking your account ), you immediately leap for joy and maybe call your wife ( if you're married ), or someone you trust to share the news. But about 5 minutes later or so, reality sets in. You think this is a huge sum of money and someone probably made a mistake and could get into trouble for this, and like that, the joy disappears. So you go to the bank to let them know what has happened to see if they can correct the error, but reaching the bank, the cashier lets you know that it wasn't a mistake, someone deposited \$5 million in your account. Now, you have the confidence to spend the money. You have a solid foundation to rejoice, cause you know it wasn't a mistake and the money is yours.

That is how righteousness by faith is brethren. It started as a result of God's mercy and grace, but God designed it in such a way that He is not just being merciful in calling us righteous, He is also just in justifying us.

#### Rom 3:24-26 ESV

24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

26 It was to show his righteousness at present so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Through the redemption found in Jesus, God can righteously pass over your sins as He did for the Israelites in Egypt when the spirit of death passed over

the children of Israel because of the blood of the lamb on their doorpost. That was a picture of how God's wrath, punishment, and anger pass over us who have put our trust in the Lord Jesus and His finished work. For you beloved, rest in the understanding that it is not a mistake that God doesn't visit your sins upon you, or that He calls you righteous, and it's not something that's ever going away, because it is a gift and the gifts of God are irrevocable. Know beloved today that Jesus paid the price for your sins, past, present, and future with His blood. Don't just know it, confess it, and believe it, for the Bible says:

#### Rom 5:1 ESV

1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Eph 2:8-9 ESV

- 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,
- 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

### **Receive His Grace**

Have you ever wondered what the gospel of God's grace is really about? Well, let's look at answers in the Scriptures.

#### Rom 1:16-17 ESV

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

The gospel is the good news of God's grace, that He is no longer angry with you, and your sins separate you from Him no longer. I have seen believers try to please God but without rest. They strive out of the fear that God is going to be angry with them if they don't do this or do that, that God is not going to accept them otherwise, and that is not true. Our acceptance today is purely in the beloved Jesus and not in our works. The Bible says:

#### Eph 1:6-7 KJV

6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Know today that you are forever loved and accepted in Christ. You may say, but what of my sins? Beloved, your sins are washed in the blood of the lamb, our Lord Jesus, and you are continually being washed in His blood so that you are ever without blemish before our righteous Abba forever.

#### 1Jn 1:7 KJV

7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

'Cleaneth' above is a present-continuous tense, meaning, it is being done and will continue to be done. Now, what about walking in the 'light'? I believe the right way to answer this question is who is the Light, or in whom is light? Let's look at the Scriptures:

#### John 1:4-5 KJV

- 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- 5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

#### John 12:35-36 KJV

35 Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness comes upon you: for him that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth.

36 While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide from them.

You see, our Lord Jesus is the Light, and from the Scripture above, He implored the Jews of His day to believe in Him while they yet have Him cause He would soon be crucified and they will see Him no more. Also, from the Scripture above, you see that the way we become children of the Light, the way we walk in the light, is by believing in Him, in Jesus, that He is who He says He is, that He is the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, and by Him, we are washed clean of all our filth and sin and made the righteousness of God in Him.

#### 2Co 5:21 KJV

21 For he hath made him be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Beloved, believe today, that you are righteous, and God is not mad at you, God is not displeased with you. Come into His gracious embrace and let His love, His Spirit love over you. God has shown us His immense love by giving us His only begotten son, His beloved, the person of His goodness, the person of His grace, the person of His pleasure, to die for us, for our sins when we didn't even desire Him. I implore you, brethren, that today, we should receive that love by saying "Lord Jesus, I receive your sacrifice of love for me, I believe you died for all my sins and today I'm made Abba's righteousness in you." Know today, that the Everlasting Father Himself is your loving Abba, and He loves you with everything He is and has.

#### John 1:12-13 KJV

- 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
- 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

## **How is Righteousness Attained?**

Rom 10:8-11 ESV

- 8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);
- 9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
- 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth, one confesses and is saved.
- 11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

John 1:29 KJV

29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, <u>Behold the</u> Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Righteousness comes by believing in the Lord Jesus, that He is the lamb of God (*Jn 1:29*) who takes away your sins, and confessing with your mouth that He is Lord. Let's talk a little bit more about this, cause you may be thinking, what about the Law?

Heb 9:8 KJV

8 The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:

Heb 8:12-13 KJV

- 12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.
- 13 In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

#### Rom 3:20 KJV

20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

#### Gal 3:11-12 LITV

11 And that no one is justified by Law before God is clear because "The just shall live by faith." Hab. 2:4

12 But the Law is not of faith, but, "The man doing these things shall live in them." Lev. 18:5

#### Rom 11:6 KJV

6 And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it is of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

#### Rom 8:2-4 KJV

- 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.
- 3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:
- 4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

#### Eph 2:8-9 KJV

- 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
- 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

You see brethren, the law was not given for man to be righteous by. I know that's a bold statement, but let me show you from the Bible.

Rom 5:20 KJV

20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

Gal 3:21 ESV

21 Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law.

The law cannot give life, only faith in Christ can. The law was a schoolmaster, given to tide men over until the coming of the Messiah. Pastor Joseph Prince would say, "The Law condemns the best of us, but grace saves the worst of us." God loves man, and you may have heard this said a thousand times, "God loves the sinner but hates the sin," and He demonstrated this in that while we were still in the world, unprofitable, and sinning, Christ died for us (Rom 5:8). This is also beautifully displayed in the account of the woman caught in the very act of adultery (Jn 8:1-11), and Jesus' meeting with the Samaritan woman who had 5 husbands (Jn 4:1-26). You would also find this in the story of Zacchaeus (Lk 19:1-10), the Apostle Paul, and many many others. You would find this in my story, and yours too. The Son of God who loved us, and gave Himself for us. What a love story, what a heart, what a Saviour! He is not the Lord we deserve (cause we deserved the worst of punishments), but He is the Saviour we got (cause He is a gracious God, Ps 86:15)!

Rom 5:6-10 KJV

6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

- 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.
- 8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
- 9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
- 10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

#### Gal 2:20 KJV

20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

#### Psa 86:15 ESV

15 But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Now, what if we seek to follow the Law or our hearts condemn us for not being pious enough, for not being holy, as He is Holy? Then, is it okay to go back to the Law if I seek to be justified? The answer is No! And even more, we shouldn't seek anymore to be justified, cause to do so is to say you are not already justified, and that the work of the Messiah is not finished (*Jn 19:30*). But the redeeming work of the Messiah is finished, and you have been redeemed, declared eternally just (*Heb 10:10*, *Heb 10:14*, *Jn 19:30*).

#### John 19:30 KJV

30 When Jesus, therefore, had received the vinegar, he said, <u>It is finished</u>: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

Heb 10:10 GNB

10 Because Jesus Christ did what God wanted him to do, we are all purified from sin by the offering that he made of his own body once and for all.

Heb 10:14 ESV

14 For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

Heb 10:14 GNB

14 With one sacrifice, then, he has made perfect forever those who are purified from sin.

Heb 10:14 LITV

14 For by one offering He has perfected in perpetuity the ones being sanctified.

But what do I do when my heart condemns me? This is an important question, cause my heart too sometimes condemns me. Should I then go back to the Law to justify myself? The answer is still No! But then, what should I do? The answer is to believe and stand in Faith (Gal 5:1). Don't seek again to establish your righteousness, but stand in His righteousness given to you by faith (Rom 10:3). To think of it, that's why it's called faith, cause lying symptoms and realities will come to test your conviction. It's like the healing we have in Christ. The Bible declares we are (past tense) healed (Is 53:5), but sometimes our bodies act up. Should we then say we are not healed, No! We stand in the Faith. This should be applied to other areas of our lives too, like our finances, our peace and well-being, etc. We are not trying to get/attain, No! We have in Christ, attained, cause all the promises of God are ours and fulfilled in Him, through His cross (2 Cor 1:20, 1 Cor 3:21-23).

Rom 10:3-4 KJV

3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth.

Gal 5:1 KJV

1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Isa 53:5 KJV

5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and with his stripes, we are healed.

2Co 1:20 KJV

20 For all the promises of God in him are yea and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

1Co 3:21-23 KJV

- 21 Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours;
- 22 Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours;
- 23 And ye are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

Going back to the matter of the Law, you see, it is a yoke of bondage (Gal 5:1), and following after the Law is to submit to a spirit of fear and slavery (Rom 8:15, Gal 4:24-26), and you will in no way inherit the promises of God cause they are to be attained by Faith only (Rom 4:13). But you will instead be under the curse of the Law, cause cursed is everyone who does not completely do the Law (Gal 3:10). Christ will be of no effect to you (Gal 5:4). Think of it, if righteousness and justification were by the Law, then, why would Christ die (Gal 2:21)? So, do not frustrate the grace of God in your life by abandoning it to go after the Law (Gal 2:21). Righteousness brethren is by the Faith in Christ, and Christ only. When your heart condemns you, hold on to the Word of God in

Faith, who declares that you are Righteous (1 Jn 3:20, Rom 8:33). Stand in Faith for your Righteousness beloved.

#### Gal 5:1 KJV

1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

#### Rom 8:15 KJV

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

#### Gal 4:21-31 KJV

- 21 Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law?
- 22 For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman.
- 23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh, but he of the freewoman was by promise.
- 24 Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar.
- 25 For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.
- 26 But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.
- 27 For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath a husband.
- 28 Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.
- 29 But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so, it is now.
- 30 Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.

31 So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but the free.

#### Rom 4:13-16 KJV

13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

14 For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:

15 Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.

16 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end, the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

#### Gal 3:10 KJV

10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is everyone that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

#### Gal 5:4 KJV

4 Christ becomes of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

#### Gal 2:21 KJV

21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

#### 1Jn 3:20 KJV

20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

#### Rom 8:33 KJV

33 Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

#### Eph 2:8-10 KJV

- 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
- 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.
- 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

#### Rom 3:23-24, 28 KJV

- 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
- 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:
- 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

#### Rom 4:3-8 KJV

- 3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed in God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.
- 4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but debt.
- 5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.
- 6 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works,
- 7 Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.
- 8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin

### **Established in Righteousness**

Isa 54:14 KJV

14 In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee.

The Word of God declares that in righteousness, we will be established, and a consequence of this is that "thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee."

Oppression, terror, and many other evils are not the Father's will for you and me. He doesn't want you sick but well. He doesn't want you poor but richly provided for. He doesn't want you anxious and restless, but dwelling in peace and His rest. He wants us far from all evils, and the key to this I believe, is our being established in righteousness. Not in our righteousness, but His righteousness that only comes by faith in the Lord Jesus.

#### Dan 9:24 KJV

24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

Through Daniel, the Word of God says the Messiah, the Christ, will make an end to sins, make reconciliation for iniquity, and bring in everlasting righteousness. That is, not a righteousness that comes and goes, but one that remains. Righteousness that abides forever. Well, we do know ourselves, how we are like the waves of the sea, unstable in all our ways, good today, bad tomorrow. So, how shall these things be, how will we be established, firmly

planted, and unmoving in this righteousness? How will we remain when the Lord shakes the Heavens and Earth?

Heb 12:26-29 KJV

26 Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.

27 And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

29 For our God is a consuming fire.

The answer to our question is in verse 28 I believe. It is not by our doing that we are established, but by receiving. The Word of God says we have received a kingdom, a placement, a standing that cannot be moved. He then says, "Let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear."

Rom 5:17 KJV

17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

Brethren, our righteousness is a gift given to us by our lovely Abba, and the gifts of God are without repentance.

Rom 11:29 KJV

29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

Rom 11:29 ESV

29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Furthermore, in Christ, we are born righteous. We have a new nature, and a new Spirit is at work in us, the Spirit of the Almighty Himself, the Spirit of Truth, our Comforter, whereby we are called sons. In Christ, you are justified and righteousness is imparted and fulfilled in you, and all you have to do is believe it to receive it.

#### Rom 10:4

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth.

#### Rom 10:8-10

- 8 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;
- 9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.
- 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth, confession is made unto salvation.

### Righteousness and Salvation are the same

Psa 132:9 ISV

9 ¶ May your priests be clothed with righteousness and may your godly ones shout for joy.

Psa 132:16 ISV

16 ¶ I will clothe its priests with salvation and its godly ones will shout for joy.

From the verses above, the Lord's priests, the New Covenant priests are you and I, and we are clothed with righteousness and salvation. The Holy Spirit used righteousness and salvation interchangeably to indicate that they are the same. There is no salvation without righteousness, and there is no righteousness without salvation. Both are one and are supplied by God through our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus. They are supplied by His death (sacrifice) and resurrection.

Heb 5:9

9 and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him,

Rom 6:17

17 But thank God that, though you were once slaves of sin, you became obedient from your hearts to that form of teaching with which you were entrusted!

Rom 10:4

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Obedience here is the obedience of the Gospel, the obedience of the Truth. Also, notice how righteousness and salvation are the robes we are clothed with. Let me show you a scripture.

#### Rev 3:4

4 But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me in white clothes because they are worthy.

A common theme in the Church is our robe, and how we should not soil it. I believe we don't soil our garments by remaining in His righteousness, cause "The person who is put right with God through faith shall live." (Romans 1:17 GNB)

#### Rev 7:14

14 "I don't know, sir. You do," I answered. He said to me, "These are the people who have come safely through the terrible persecution. They have washed their robes and made them white with the blood of the Lamb.

We have been given so great a salvation, and we'll do well to remain if we hold fast to our faith even to the end. Cause,

#### Eph 2:8-9

- 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
- 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

We have been clothed with the Father's robes, and as long as we remain in His presence and go not out again, we will remain pure till His coming, even forever, cause we are Zion, and we are His dwelling place forever.

Psa 132:13 ISV

13 ¶ For the Lord has chosen Zion, desiring it as his dwelling place.

Psa 132:14 ISV

14 ¶ "This is my resting place forever.

Here I will live,

because I desire to do so.

# **Chapter 2**

# **Benefits of Righteousness**

### **Eternally Free, Eternally Redeemed**

Child of God, do you know that you are eternally free and eternally redeemed? Have you failed at any time, and thought you were right back where you started or worse off than before? Those are the enemy's mind games, don't give in to them.

#### 2Co 10:5

5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Bringing every accusing thought to the obedience of Christ, what does it mean? I believe what it means is to stand on the obedience of Christ, and not your own. The knowledge of God (from the Scriptures) declares that you are righteous and you are forgiven through the works of Christ and you with that, cast down imaginations and thoughts that accuse. We are not righteous today because we have wholly followed God's laws and requirements, no! Those are good and they come after, as the Holy Spirit produces the fruits of righteousness in us, but we are here today because the Son of God, our Lord, and Saviour Jesus Christ made atonement (the act of making amends or reparation for guilt or wrongdoing) for our sins. You have peace with God today simply because the Lord Jesus, who loved us, gave Himself for us, and paid for our redemption (our atonement), remember that. What was necessary for us

to have peace with God today was laid upon Him, and He perfectly fulfilled the laws of God, and with His stripes, we are healed, made whole, lacking nothing.

Isa 53:5 ESV

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds, we are healed.

Rom 5:1

1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Rom 3:25

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of past sins, through the forbearance of God;

Also, though it's a one-time sacrifice (i.e. Jesus does not have to die again for every mistake you make), it covers you forever. The blood of Jesus forever speaks forgiveness and atonement over you (Heb 12:24 KJV). I believe this is what the Bible means when the Bible says He forever lives to make intercession for us.

Heb 12:24 KJV

24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

Heb 7:24-27 KJV

24 But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.

- 25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.
- 26 For such a high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;
- 27 Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his sins, and then for the people's: for this, he did once, when he offered up himself.

The Scriptures declare that He saves us to the uttermost meaning:

Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries: full-ended, that is, entire, completion, uttermost.

Thayer Definition:

- 1) all complete, perfect
- 2) completely, perfectly, utterly

So, son of God, today, you can rest knowing your sins are fully atoned for, they are completely put away. Another Scripture to prove this is in Hebrews below:

Heb 10:14-18 KJV

- 14 For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified.
- 15 Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,
- 16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;
- 17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.
- 18 Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.

Now, God is a righteous judge, who will by no means pass over sin. He is the judge of the whole Earth, and He will always do right, He will always judge

righteously. I believe this is also the reason why God is not a respecter of persons, meaning whoever sins, the punishment will come due. That is, God will not look at positions or titles, or even His affection, but will always deal justice righteously. This He does because He is Holy. He does not judge righteously only because it's the right thing to do, but also because He is Holy, that is who He is. The Scriptures say that "He loves righteousness, and hates evil."

#### Gen 18:25 KJV

25 That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

#### Exo 34:7 KJV

7 Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.

#### Hab 1:13 KJV

13 Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity...

#### Heb 1:8-9 KJV

- 8 But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.
- 9 <u>Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity</u>; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Now, why would this holy, just, and righteous God pass over our sins who have believed in the Lord Jesus? I submit that because the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, has made a perfect atonement for all our sins (past, present, future) on the cross. His one sacrifice saves us and redeems us to the utmost.

Heb 10:14, 17 KJV

14 For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified.

17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

John 1:29 KJV

29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Now, many consider the premise that all our sins, past, present, and future are completely forgiven a dangerous premise, and some don't even believe it. Some say it gives people a license to sin, and so reject it or disbelieve and others think it's too good to be true. Let's look at what the Word of God has to say about this, are all our sins past, present, and even the future completely forgiven? Are we truly eternally free?

Col 2:13 KJV

13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

I believe you will agree with me, that <u>all</u> as used above, means everything, nothing left out. Meaning all our sins are forgiven.

Heb 10:10 KJV

10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once and for all.

Heb 9:12 KJV

9 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

I believe you would also agree with me that the word <u>eternal</u> means forever and it includes our future. Let's look at its meaning from Bible dictionaries:

Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries perpetual (also used of past time, or past and future as well): - eternal, forever, everlasting, the world (began).

Thayer Definition:

- 1) without beginning and end, that which always has been and always will be
- 2) without beginning
- 3) without end, never to cease, everlasting

Dan 9:24 KJV

24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

We maintain a state of eternal righteousness not by works (works of the Law, that is, doing good and departing from evil), but by faith in the Messiah. Therefore, we are declared just (i.e. we are justified, or as some people call it <u>just-as-if-I-never-sinned</u>) through and in Him.

Rom 3:21-22, 28 KJV

22 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

- 22 Even the righteousness of God which is by the faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:
- 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

#### Rom 4:25 KJV

25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

#### Rom 10:3-4 KJV

- 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.
- 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth.

#### Rom 8:33 TPT

33 Who then would dare to accuse those whom God has chosen in love to be his? God himself is the judge who has issued his final verdict over them—"Not guilty!"

Now, that the matter of our eternal forgiveness is settled, what about the accusation that it gives people a license to sin or makes them think it's okay to sin? To answer personally, I don't believe the Gospel (cause this is the Gospel Rom 1:16-17) is a license to sin, but on the contrary. It frees us from the bondage of the law, sin, and death. Many believe that Believers need the law, so as not to sin, but the Bible lets us know that the reverse is the case. Believers require that the law be taken away for us to truly live out our righteousness in Christ, cause "the power of sin is the law" (Rom 5:20, Rom 6:14-18). We can liken it to the story of Lazarus where Jesus asked that the stone be rolled away before He asked Lazarus to come forth. The stone in this story being the law (the 10 commandments) needs to be rolled away for the

law of the Spirit of life to take hold (Rom 8:2, Rom 10:4). We may make mistakes, but in the heart of a believer is the desire to be as the Father is, knowing that our sins, though many, were graciously forgiven and paid for in the body of His son (Luke 7:47, 1Jn 4:19). That said, rather than answer the question from my personal belief, let us look into the Scriptures, as inspired by the Holy Spirit:

#### Rom 1:16-17 KJV

16 For I am not ashamed of the <u>gospel of Christ</u>: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, <u>The just shall live by faith.</u>

#### Rom 5:20 KJV

20 <u>Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound</u>. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

#### Rom 6:14-18 KJV

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law but grace.

15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.

16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death or obedience unto righteousness?

17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

#### Rom 8:2 KJV

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Rom 10:4 KJV

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth.

Luk 7:47 KJV

47 Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.

1Jn 4:19 KJV

19 We love him because he first loved us.

### Righteousness Brings Peace and Fellowship with Abba

Psa 23:1-3 KJV

- 1 A Psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

You see above that being led beside still waters equates to being led in the paths of righteousness by the Lord Jesus who is our Shepherd, our Savior. Righteousness is always accompanied by peace. Consider our Lord Jesus, that even in the waves of the seas and the storms, he had enough peace within to sleep (*Mar 4:37-39*). Righteousness brings about assurance in the Lord. You can be assured that God cares for you, and so, cast all your cares to Him (1 Pet 5:7).

Mar 4:37-39 KJV

- 37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship so that it was now full.
- 38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?
- 39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

1Pe 5:7 KJV

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

The immediate effect of the righteousness we have received by faith is peace. Peace with God, peace within, and peace with the elements of this world. What is peace?

Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

From the Greek dictionary - peace (literally or figuratively); by implication prosperity: - one, peace, quietness, rest, + set at one again.

From the Hebrew word (*shalom*) - safe, that is, (figuratively) well, happy, friendly; also (abstractly) welfare, that is, health, prosperity, peace: - X do, familiar, X fare, favor, + friend, X greet, (good) health, (X perfect, such as be at) peace (-able, -ably), prosper (-ity, -ous), rest, safe (-ly), salute, welfare, (X all is, be) well, X wholly.

#### Thayer Definition

- 1. a state of national tranquillity
- 1a. exemption from the rage and havoc of war
- 2. peace between individuals, i.e. harmony, concord
- 3. security, safety, prosperity, felicity, (because peace and harmony make and keep things safe and prosperous)
- 4. of the Messiah's peace
- 4a. the way that leads to peace (salvation)
- 5. of Christianity, the *tranquil* state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and content with its earthly lot, of whatsoever sort that is
- 6. the blessed state of devout and upright men after death

#### Oxford Dictionary

Tranquil - free from disturbance, calm

I think of all the definitions above, the one I like the most is "set at one again," then "quietness", and "rest." I also like the one that describes peace as the tranquil state of the soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God. I like the first definition the most because it lets us know there is a history. There was a time when things were not one, but now they are one again, and that accurately describes our relationship with God. There was a time when man had peace with God (in the garden before the fall), but we lost it, thank God it's restored (by the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus). Now that we are justified by faith, we have peace and boldness with God (Rom 5:1). Today, we can come boldly before God knowing that all our sins are completely put away. In the past, what separated man from God was sin (Isa 59:1-2), but the wall of separation has been broken down through the cross of Christ. This is also why it's important to be grounded in the truth that all our sins, past, present, and future are forgiven; otherwise, we would not have a secure foundation to come before God. We would constantly wonder, what if I had sinned and I don't know, what if this, what if that... But knowing you are completely forgiven, you can come boldly to the throne of grace (Heb 4:16, Heb 10:19-23)! Also, notice in the Scriptures, that we have "boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus... By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh" (Heb 10:19-20). Two things I want you to notice here are that first, we enter into the holiest (a place revered, where the Old Testament priests were only allowed to come into once a year, the presence of God Himself), and second, it is not by our works, but by the blood and body of the Lord Jesus. We are accepted before God today through the finished work of the Lord Jesus only.

#### Rom 5:1 KJV

1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: Isa 59:1-2 KJV

- 1 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:
- 2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

#### Heb 4:16 KJV

16 Let us, therefore, come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Heb 10:19-23 KJV

- 19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus.
- 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;
- 21 And having a high priest over the house of God;
- 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.
- 23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

In the Old Testament, only the high priest was allowed to come into the Holy of Holies, once a year with blood, and many times, it was with fear and great dread. Moses in one of his encounters with God wrote this: "And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake" (Heb 12:21). But today, God says we should come boldly before Him to the same Holy of Holies where only the high priest could enter once a year (Heb 4:16, Heb 10:19). Not only that, we need not fear the day of judgment anymore, because "as he is, so are we in this world" (1 Jn 4:17-18).

Heb 9:7 KJV

7 But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people:

Heb 12:21 KJV

21 And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:)

Heb 4:16 KJV

16 Let us, therefore, come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Heb 10:19 KJV

19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

1Jn 4:17-18 KJV

17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

Isa 66:12 KJV

12 For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees.

John 14:27 KJV

27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Even more, God delights to hear your voice and your prayers, and you are made one with Him in Christ.

Son 2:14 KJV

14 O my dove, that art in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely.

1Co 6:17 KJV

17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

One last thing I'd like to add is that knowing you can come boldly to the throne of grace, know also that you can cast all your cares, worries, fears, and anxieties to Him, for He cares for you.

John 13:1 KJV

1 Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour has come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.

Php 4:6-7 KJV

- 6 Be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
- 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

1Pe 5:7 KJV

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

## **Righteousness Brings Provision**

Long ago, I talked with a Christian brother and we concluded that the mindset that Christians should be poor is false and not the will of the Father for us. Sure, Abba wants us "content with such things as ye have" (Heb 13:5), but have you asked, what do we have? In Christ, the question should be, what do we not have? That's a shorter list. The Bible by the Holy Spirit declares "all things are yours" (1Co 3:21). Sure, God doesn't want us chasing riches and the things of this life, as the Lord said in (Mat 6:33 KJV) "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." But what is the kingdom of God, and His righteousness? (Rom 14:17 KJV) "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." and (Rom 3:22 KJV) "Even the righteousness of God which is by the faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference." You see, (Rom 10:4 KJV) "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth." So brethren, as you establish yourself in His righteousness which comes by faith (Rom 10:3) and not your own, the Lord will satisfy your mouth with all good things (Ps 103:5). Become established in His righteousness today, and see His supply flow in your life cause "your heavenly Father knoweth that ye need all these things" (Mat 6:32).

Heb 13:5 KJV

5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

1Co 3:21 KJV

21 Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours;

Rom 14:17 KJV

17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Rom 10:3 KJV

3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

Psa 103:5 KJV

5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle.

Mat 6:32 KJV

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye need all these things.

2Co 8:9 KJV

9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes, he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Isa 45:3 KJV

3 And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

### **Righteousness Brings Health and Life**

Besides satisfying your needs and wants, Abba supplies health and renewal of youth alongside the righteousness He provides. Indeed, it's a complete package that accounts for everything, thank you, Jesus! The scriptures declare that "with his wounds, we are healed" (Isa 53:5). The scriptures in laying out the benefits of the Lord to us declare "who healeth all thy diseases" (Psa 103:3). Just to bring it up again, the Bible says He heals all our diseases, hallelujah!! All means all, nothing left out! If you have any sickness in your body today, know that it's not the Lord's will, and He's not punishing you with sickness. Will any of you punish your children with sickness or accidents? The answer is a NO! Even so, God will never punish you with diseases and death because He overflows with love for you. The Bible says "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom 5:8 ESV), and if Christ died for us while we were still sinners, "much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God" (Rom 5:9 ESV). We also need to understand that death is an enemy and is overcome in Christ. "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death" (1Co 15:26 KJV).

We need to understand the reason why people fall sick and die in the first place. Of this, the Bible says "For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man..." (Rom 5:17 ESV). Today, people die because of sin "For the wages of sin is death", but "the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 6:23 ESV). God doesn't want us to go the way of the world into the grave, but He wants us to reign over death and sickness (sickness is death on its way), cause in Christ, He has defeated the one who had the power of death, the Devil; "that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil," (Heb 2:14 ESV), and He has brought us immortality: "our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel" (2Ti 1:10 ESV). Yes, I

believe, like the Apostle Paul did (who in his day had the power to consider whether to sleep and go and be with the Lord or continue with the Lord's work on the Earth *Php 1:21-25*) that we in Christ born of the Everlasting Father, reign in life, over death, devils, and demons, and over sicknesses and all that hurt in the world. "For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ" (Rom 5:17 KJV). Cause "the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 6:23 ESV). The reign of death and the devil has come and gone, it's time for the reign of Christ and the sons of God!

Isa 53:4 YLT

4 Surely our sicknesses he hath borne, And our pains—he hath carried them, And we—we have esteemed him plagued, Smitten of God, and afflicted.

Isa 53:5 ESV

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds, we are healed.

Psa 103:2-3 KJV

- 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:
- 3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

Rom 5:8 ESV

8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom 5:9 ESV

9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

Rom 5:17 ESV

17 For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and free the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

Rom 6:23 ESV

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Heb 2:14 ESV

14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,

2Ti 1:10 ESV

10 and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

1Jn 5:11-13 KJV

13 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12 He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Php 1:21 ESV

21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Php 1:22-25 ESV

- 22 If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell.
- 23 I am hard-pressed between the two. I desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.
- 24 But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.
- 25 Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith,

### **Righteousness Brings Victory, Always**

Another benefit of righteousness is that nothing can come against you because the word of God declares "What shall we then say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Rom 8:31 KJV). You may wonder then, why believers seem to go through hardships and trials. The Bible says "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us" (Rom 8:37 ESV). In Christ, God here's what God has done: "And hath raised us together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Eph 2:6 KJV). The Bible goes on to say:

### Eph 1:19-23 KJV

- 19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,
- 20 Which he wrought in Christ when he raised him from the dead and set him at his right hand in the heavenly places,
- 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world but also in that which is to come:
- 22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,
- 23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

So, "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1Co 15:57 ESV), and "But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere" (2Co 2:14 ESV). Cause "Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf" (Pro 11:28 ESV), and "The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways" (Deu 28:7 KJV). Hallelujah!!

So, "Trust ye in the LORD forever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength" (Isa 26:4 KJV).

# **Chapter 3**

# The Holy Spirit of God

Rom 8:14-17 KJV

- 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.
- 15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.
- 16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:
- 17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Gal 3:13-14 KJV

- 13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree:
- 14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

As you have believed in the Lord Jesus, that He is the Messiah, the anointed one, the Savior, the lamb of God who takes away all our sins (the first begotten of the Father), the Christ, you become a begotten son of God too, "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father" (Gal 4:6 KJV). Know today that the Holy Spirit of God, the Comforter, resides in you (Gal 3:14 KJV), and He will reveal to you all the love gifts of the Father purchased for you in Christ Jesus; "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God" (1Co 2:10 KJV). He is the Comforter, and He will comfort

you. He is God, He is Abba, He is a friend (your best friend and ultimate cheerleader), and He will fill your life with so much peace and joy as you become established in the truth of the Gospel because He loves you. What is this truth? "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life" (1Jn 5:11-12 KJV). Child of God, know that you are born of the Almighty God (Joh 1:12-13) and you have His eternal life in you. Enjoy it!

#### 1Jn 5:11-13 KJV

11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12 He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

#### John 14:26 KJV

26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

#### John 15:26 KJV

26 But when the Comforter comes, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

#### Isa 66:13 KJV

13 As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

John 1:12-13 KJV

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but God.

#### Rom 8:10-11 KJV

11 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of him that raised Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

## Conclusion

Beloved of God, when you pray or as you go about your life, or when you come before God, come knowing all your sins are put away and that "For he hath made him be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2Co 5:21 KJV). Abba loves you.

# Glossary

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