

*Note: When people misunderstand Righteousness by faith to believe that Jesus died so that we can continue in sin, a low moral standard and a form of godliness denying the power of the Holy Spirit is the result. It also results in a people who think they are saved and in right standing with God when they are NOT!

10) What did the false religious leaders and prophets promise the wicked people of Israel? -Ezekiel 13:22, 23

1 - "With l____s ye have made the heart of the r____teous s____d, whom I have not made sad; and str____thened the hands of the wicked, that he should not re____rn from his w____ked way, by pr____sing him l____e.... I will d____ver my p____ple out of your h____d: and ye shall know that I am the LORD."

*Note: As the false religious leaders of Israel promised life to the wicked in Israel, so popular ministers, today, promise eternal life and heaven without repentance from all sin to their church congregations. They preach "smooth things" and "prophesy deceits." (See Isaiah 30:9, 10)



11) What other extreme view of righteousness by faith did Paul warn of? -Galatians 3:1-3.

1 - "O foolish Ga____tians, who hath be____tched you, that ye should not obey the t____th,.... This only would I learn of you, Received ye the S____rit by the w____ks of the l____w, or by the h____ring of f____th? Are ye so foolish? having b____un in the Spirit, are ye now made p____fect by the fl____h?"

*Note: The church in Galatia initially understood that their salvation must be built upon faith in Jesus Christ, but as time went on, Satan used false teachers to mislead the Galatians to hold to their prejudices against the Gentiles and to teach the ceremonial laws of Moses as requirements for salvation. They began to feel that their rigid obedience to these Mosaic laws made them righteous and forgot that righteousness comes by faith in Jesus Christ.



***Warning: Beware of those religious teachers who over emphasize works and perfect obedience to make you righteous. They often omit the importance of having faith in God and trusting in God's mercy and grace. They will also impose man made rigid rules as requirements for salvation. If the Devil can't get you to neglect the law, He will lead you to the other extreme -- believing in the law to make you righteous!**

12) What was the problem with Israel's obedience to the law? -Romans 9:31, 31.

1 - "But Israel, which fol____wed after the l____w of right____usness, hath not att____ned to the law of r____teousness. Wherefore? Because they sought it not by f____th, but as it were by the w____ks of the l____w."

*Note: Israel failed to keep God's law, firstly, because they thought it made them righteous, and secondly, because they tried to do it by themselves instead of having faith in God!

Appeal) Will you let Jesus come into your heart and make you righteous and guard against the counterfeit teachings of Righteousness by Faith? _____

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"Beneath the Surface Bible Lesson Series 2017"

"Lesson 7 - Righteousness by Faith & the Counterfeit"

The gospel message gives us hope that no other message can -- eternal life! The teaching that explains how we can attain eternal life and live a righteous life is the message of Righteousness by Faith, therefore, we must understand it if we want to be fit for heaven. The Devil doesn't want us to understand it, which is why he has come up with counterfeit interpretations of Righteousness by Faith. Complete this lesson with KJV Bible to learn about what Righteousness by Faith really is and to beware of the counterfeit!



1) What does the Bible say about our righteousness? How many people does the Bible say are righteous? -Isaiah 64:6, Romans 3:10.

1 - "But we are all as an unc____an th____g, and all our right____usnesses are as fi____hy r____s."
2 - "There is n____e ri____teous, no, not ____e."



*Note: No man inherits holiness or righteousness as a birthright. Instead we inherit sinful tendencies from our parents and cultivate other bad habits after we are born. This is why the Bible says that "our righteousness are as filthy rags." Our only hope is Jesus Christ!

2) Who does the Bible say can make sinners righteous? -Romans 5:19.

1 - "As by one man's di____edience many were made si____ers, so by the ob____d____nce of o____e shall many be made r____teous."



*Note: That one man's sin was Adam, while the One Man who was always obedient was Jesus Christ. Through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, we can be made righteous. Some say that it is not fair that all humanity should have to suffer the results of sin for Adam's disobedience, but in all actuality, it was not fair that Jesus, the only righteous one, should have to die for our sins. Though, it was not fair, He did it because of His deep love for us.

3) How does the Bible say the sinner is made righteous? -Romans 5:1; 3:23-25.

1 - "Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:"

2 - "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past."

*Note: The word "justified" means to make just or righteous, so therefore, righteousness comes by faith. Our faith must be in Jesus' blood and His perfect life that He lived in human flesh on earth. The moment we have true faith in Christ and His sacrifice, His righteousness is imputed unto us and we can declare "His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past." We take credit for His righteous life because He bore our sins on the cross.



4) What will true faith and godly sorrow always lead to? -2 Corinthians 7:10, Acts 19:18,

1 - "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation."

2 - "Many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds."

*Note: After hearing the preaching of Paul, the people of Ephesus believed and with godly sorrow, confessed and repented of their witchcraft and evil deeds. True genuine faith will always lead to confession of sin and repentance.

5) What does the Bible say of those who do NOT forsake their sins, but instead, cover their sins? -Proverbs 28:13.

1 - "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."



*Note: True genuine faith will lead to sorrow for sin and repentance. If we have no sorrow or guilt for committing sin, our faith is NOT true saving faith.

6) What deception does John warn us of? -1 John 3:7, 8; 2:4.

1 - "Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil."

2 - "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

*Warning: One of Satan's counterfeits for righteousness by faith is that belief alone in Jesus Christ will save you, even if it does NOT lead to godly sorrow and repentance. John warns us of this deception. Those who have true faith in Christ will do righteousness, instead of the sinful works of the Devil.

***Warning: Those who presumptuously think that they can continue in sin and still be saved because of their profession of faith in Christ are liars and the truth is NOT in them!**

7) Along with justification by faith, what does the Bible teach we must also experience? - 1 Thessalonians 4:4, John 17:17

1 - "Every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and holiness;"

2 - "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."

*Note: The word sanctification means purification and holiness. As we are justified from our past sins, we must also experience the process of moral purification from sin. Notice that the Bible says that sanctification takes place through the study of God's holy Word. The Word changes our minds as it teaches us about the perfect character of God and how we should treat ourselves, treat others and God.



8) What moral principles will true sanctification lead us to obey? What role do these principles have in our salvation? -1 John 5:3, Romans 3:20.

1 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

2 - "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."

*Note: Sanctification will lead us to obey God's Ten Commandment law. The law of God does NOT justify us, nor save us in itself. Instead, the law is like a spiritual mirror, which shows us our defects of character, so that we can know the sins that we need to repent of. Without the law, there is neither sin, nor a knowledge of sin. (See Romans 4:15)



***Warning: There are many churches that teach the false doctrine that the Ten Commandments were blotted out at the cross when Jesus died. They also teach that mankind CANNOT live righteous like Jesus and perfectly keep the commandments because of our genetic sinful nature. This is a deception from the Devil that perverts the message of righteousness by faith and denies the power of the gospel!**

9) As a result of this false interpretation of Righteousness by Faith, how does the Bible describe the church in the very last days?

-2 Timothy 3:1-5.

1 - "In the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unlovingly,....lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."