

No Other Foundation

1 Corinthians 3:10-11

10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. NKJV

- There is only one foundation – Grace

1 Corinthians 3:12-15

12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one's work will become clear; for **the Day** will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. 14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. NKJV

- Gold, silver, precious stones – His work in me – Grace
- Wood, hay, straw – my work for Him – Law
- More of Him – Him producing fruit – Supernatural
- More of me – More religious notions and rules
- Yet if I am in Him I will be saved
- Yes, there are rewards living “In Him”
- If I choose to squander this grace I will still be saved
- The question is do I want a life full of Him or a life full of desperation?
- Living under the law produces condemnation, pride and bondage
- Living under grace brings freedom and success

Genesis 3:22-24

22 Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever" — 23 therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. 24 So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life. NKJV

- If Adam and Eve would have eaten of the tree of life in their condition there would have been no chance for salvation
- God, in His mercy protected them!

We need to be protected from eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil – The Law

God's protection is righteousness through His son Jesus Christ – Salvation through Grace by faith

Without an understanding of grace we will live a life focusing on a list of rules and regulations to make us righteous before God

The bible says the law is for the sinner not the saint

Its purpose is to show us a need for a savior – to bring us to Christ

“I am convinced that man-made doctrines of religious tradition are the greatest enemy of the Church today. This kind of religion creates a system of beliefs that can cause us to completely misunderstand our relationship with God”. – Creflo Dollar – Not Guilty

Romans 3:20

20 For no person will be justified (made righteous, acquitted, and judged acceptable) in His sight by observing the works prescribed by the Law. For [the real function of] the Law is to make men recognize and be conscious of sin [not mere perception, but an acquaintance with sin which works toward repentance, faith, and holy character]. AMP

- Justified – Declared righteous
- We are justified by faith our not at all
- We are righteous for no other reason than the fact that God declared us righteous
- Faith in Him will produce holy character

Romans 3:21-23

21 But now the righteousness of God has been revealed independently and altogether apart from the Law, although actually it is attested by the Law and the Prophets, 22 Namely, the righteousness of God which comes by believing with personal trust and confident reliance on Jesus Christ (the Messiah). [And it is meant] for all who believe. For there is no distinction, 23 Since all have sinned and are falling short of the honor and glory which God bestows and receives AMP

- Righteousness by believing in God is attested to by the Law and the Prophets
- They attest that none is righteous – turn to God
- Righteousness by faith is a little like being born into a family
- I am a Pasquino because I was born one
- When we are born again we are declared righteous

What did Abraham find out?

Romans 4:1-3 AMP

4:1[BUT] IF so, what shall we say about Abraham, our forefather humanly speaking — [what did he] find out? [How does this affect his position, and what was gained by him?] 2 For if Abraham was justified (established as just by acquittal from guilt) by good works [that he did, then] he has grounds for boasting. But not before God! 3 For what does the Scripture say? Abraham believed in (trusted in) God, and it was credited to his account as righteousness (right living and right standing with God).

God was looking for someone who would simply believe him so He could manifest His goodness towards him and generations to follow

Abraham believed God so thoroughly that he didn't hesitate in offering his son (seed) Isaac – Abraham needed Isaac for the promise to be fulfilled – Yet he trusted God

The Action of Faith

Hebrews 11:17-19

17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, 18 of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," 19 concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. NKJV

- Faith is released when our saying and acting line up with Gods word for our situation

Righteousness is available to everyone but only those who believe the declaration of faith actually become righteous

1 John 1:9 Says: Confess your sins to the Lord
You can either believe your sin is cast away as far as the east is from the west or you can chose to suffer with thoughts of being unrighteous

Psalm 103:12

12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. NKJV

- With God it truly is forgive and forget
- This is the same way to apply healing or prosperity
- I chose to believe even though I don't feel any different

We should repent of our sin when we have done something wrong but it has nothing to do with our righteousness

Righteousness says you are righteous even when you have done something wrong

Galatians 2:18-21

18 For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. 19 For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. 20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. 21 I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain." NKJV

Every one of us is born into sin
It is not something you have to learn to do
Cursing and robbing are only our birthright

Paul is telling us in **Romans 3** that God has provided something to counteract our sin.

Righteousness is our birthright as Christians

Say this: “I am righteous before God regardless of my past behavior or what I may do in the future – my faith in Jesus makes me the righteousness of God”

We need to renew our minds

Romans 12:2

2 Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you]. AMP

- A successful life is the fruit of a renewed mind through the word of God
- Even though we are already righteous we must continually renew our minds to rule in life
- The process of renewing our minds removes our old sinful nature
- We start to think like God

Romans 5:17

17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) NKJV

- Ruling in life covers a multitude of areas in life
- Authority over sin – I have the mind of Christ
- You can not convince me that the economy will dictate my financial future
- I rule over cancer
- I rule over debt – I am debt free!

To live this way we must have a correct understanding and knowledge of the Bible

Romans 10:2

2 I bear them witness that they have a [certain] zeal and enthusiasm for God, but it is not enlightened and according to [correct and vital] knowledge. AMP

- Vital – life-giving
- When our knowledge of the word is not correct it is not life giving
- 2 Peter 1:5-8; Ephesians 1:15-19

Romans 10:3

3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. NKJV

- There is a difference between the righteousness of men and the righteousness of God

The righteousness I receive from God is not because I deserve it – unmerited favor!

Here is our battle: When I sin I feel guilty
When I feel guilty the enemy takes advantage of those feelings by accusing me – **Revelation 12:10** “how could God make you righteous?”

All the while the Holy Spirit is calling you righteous and that you have been cleansed from your sin
We often try to regain our feeling of unrighteousness by performing acts of righteousness – that is the righteousness of man

Galatians 3:3

3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? NKJV

Don't spend your life trying to establish your own righteousness – this will cause you to be confused and trapped by self condemning thoughts or puffed up with pride
Once you establish your own righteousness you have to live by it

Romans 10:4-5

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. 5 For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them." NKJV

At some point we all have missed it – don't build another foundation that will only crumble – don't live under law
Good conduct is a demonstration of righteousness not what determines righteousness

If you establish your own standard of righteousness you will have to live by it perfectly
The problem with that is you will also judge everyone by the same standard

God has a better way!

Romans 4:4-5

4 Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. 5 David Celebrates the Same Truth
But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, NKJV

- We don't do righteous things to become righteous
- We do righteous things because we are righteous
– Him bearing fruit in my life
- We don't pray to become righteous
- We don't go to church to become righteous
- We don't tithe to become righteous
- We don't love to become righteous

Romans 3:24

24[All] are justified and made upright and in right standing with God, freely and gratuitously by His grace (His unmerited favor and mercy), through the redemption which is [provided] in Christ Jesus. AMP