

“The Saving Righteousness of God”

Romans 3:21-24

- 1) Job asks, **“But how can a man be in the right before God?”** (Job 9:2). If you had a minute in an elevator to explain to someone how we can be right with God, what would you say?

- 2) Considering the context in which our text appears, how is the remark of the Roman poet Horace (*“Do not bring a god onto the stage unless the problem is one that deserves a god to solve it”*) appropriate to this section of Paul’s letter to the Romans?

- 3) To what “event” is Paul referring when he speaks of “the righteousness of God has been manifested”? What is this “righteousness of God”?

- 4) How is this “manifestation” of God’s righteousness related to the Law, according to verse 21?

- 5) What is the divinely-appointed means by which this righteousness is received? To whom is this means particularly directed (its special object)? Why?

- 6) For whom is this means available? Why? What does Paul mean when he says “there is no distinction”?

- 7) Why is “faith” so appropriate a means in light of Paul’s argument to this point?

- 8) Verse 24 sets forth God as the Justifier of those who have faith in Christ. What does it mean “to be justified”? (see Dt. 25:1; Prov. 17:15; Phil. 3:8-9)

- 9) How does Paul characterize the manner of our justification in verse 24? What does this say about our “contribution” to our salvation?

- 10) What was the means through which this justification was secured, according to verse 24?

- 11) Explain what “redemption” means. (see, for example, Ex. 6:6; Ps. 49:7,15; Micah 4:10; Mk. 10:45; Acts 20:28; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; Gal. 3:13; 4:5; Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14; Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 1:18-19)

- 12) How is this work of Christ so well-suited to answer man’s condition in sin?

13) What should be our response, as believers, to this justifying verdict of God? How should it affect/impact our lives?