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Readings: Romans ch 1 v 16 - 17
Romans ch 3 v 21 - 26

Subject: Justification

Paul is not ashamed of the Gospel. In the inherent nature of God there is justice. He cannot be unfair, He cannot be unjust. God's justness was revealed back in the Old Testament. "Shall not the judge of all the earth do right" (Genesis 18:25). God is a just God and Saviour (Isaiah 45:21).

The Lord Jesus Christ came to earth as a babe in Bethlehem. He lived a lowly and holy life. He grew up was crucified was buried and rose again. He made atonement for human sin. He told His apostles to go out and preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In it the righteousness of God is revealed. As a result of the cross the Gospel will make known that there is a way for men to have a right relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ.

Man was made to have a relationship with God but sin has separated man from God. The Gospel is a way to close that separation from God by His grace.

Source of Justification

By Gods grace (Romans 3:24)

- Grace - God revealing He has done something for men
- Law - God asking men to do something for Him

"God justifies the wicked"

"All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23)

How could God do it? God justifies because of the death of Christ. The ground of our justification is by blood. Jesus Christ, the son of God has died on our behalf (Romans 5:9). God Himself in the person of Christ - God manifest in flesh. He lived here then after a life of sinlessness gave Himself up as a sacrifice for our sin.

God Cannot overlook sin. God cannot pardon without principle. Men may have an amnesty but God must punish sin.

Sin had to be punished so the Lord took upon Himself the sin of the world (John 1:29). Sin that offended Him had to be punished. The source of justification is God's grace. The ground of it is Christ's death and we come into the benefit of it by faith (Romans 5:1).

Faith is not Hope in the dark. Faith is our response to God's fact. His own Son came in on our behalf if you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ through faith. We have to respond to Gods message in simple faith.

What are the effects of justification?

"We have peace with God" (Romans 5:1) God invites us right into where He is. Reconciled to God. We have access to God and can actually speak to God. We can come right into the presence of God. We can rejoice in the Hope of the Glory of God. Glory has to do with divine presence. God makes men and woman fit for His divine presence. So they are completely comfortable with divine glory. Redeemed for that and at home in the presence of God.