

Speaker: Thomas Duffy
Date: 8th May 2011
Reading: Isaiah 32:17

The most important question that every soul faces is, Am I right with God?

Man would give many answers if they were to ask the most important question.

We must consider God's righteousness. We may think that we can create righteousness by works. Men strive to know that they are right. God has provided a righteousness, man needs assurance that they are right with God.

A righteous work needs a righteous person. God's work has provided a divine Substitute, the Lord Jesus Christ because we cannot meet His standard. "[All our righteousnesses are filthy rags](#)" (Isa 64:6), "[None good but one, that is God](#)" (Matt 19:17), "[None righteous no not one](#)" (Rom 3:10).

["But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus ho is made unto us wisdom and righteousness"](#)(1. Cor 1:30), He is the righteous substitute standing in our place.

We were guilty before God and the Lord Jesus Christ came down from heaven. He is "[the Lord our righteousness](#)"(Jer 23:6).

John the Baptist could say, "[I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness...](#)" (John 1:23). When he saw the Lord Jesus Christ He declared He was the Son of God (John 1:34).

["In the beginning was the word..."](#)(John 1:1). From everlasting He was God (Micah 5:10). "[Made flesh and dwelt among us](#)" (John 1:14). He is completely human and completely God.

No one with a conscience of sin can be at peace with God, so God had to send His Son, "[Unto us a child is born...](#)" (Isa 9:6).

Psalm 92:15 says that He is our rock, there is no unrighteousness in Him.

We are sinners before a Holy God. "[I was shapen in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me](#)" (Ps 51:5).

The Lord Jesus Christ was born sinless, "[by power of the Holy Spirit](#)" (Luke 1:35). He was conceived by the Holy Ghost in the womb of a virgin.

In His childhood He remained in the temple and said to Joseph and His mother, "[Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business.](#)" (Luke 2:49). He was however "[subject unto them](#)"(Luke 2:51). A man asked, "[Can any good thing come out of Nazareth](#)" (John 1:46).

Our upbringing and environment does not make us sinners and failures before God. We are sinners by nature.

In His baptism "[He fulfilled all righteousness](#)" (Matt 3:15).

On the cross, as the thief trusted in Him then He could say "[Today shalt thou be with me in paradise](#)" (Luke 23:43). He had the power to save.

Don't trust on baptism or religious attendance, "[sent not to baptise but preach the gospel](#)" (1 Cor 1:17).

In all His temptations the Lord was “[Tempted as we without sin](#)” (Heb 4:15). The wilderness proved He could not sin, “[God cannot be tempted with evil](#)” (James 1:13). Sin had no attraction for the Lord, He saw things as they were.

As the righteous one, the Lord Jesus Christ could do the righteous work.

John the Baptist could say, “[Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world](#)” (John 1:29). Peter says that He is “[Without blemish and without spot](#)” (1 Pet 1:19).

The Lord Jesus Christ came into the world to take away our sins upon the cross, “[Make peace by the blood of the cross](#)”, “[Made nigh by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ](#)”.

He fulfilled all righteousness on our behalf and “[Bare our sins in His own body on the tree](#)” (1 Pet 2:24).

Holiness means no earth in it, the absence of defiled things. It is to be sanctified and set apart. “[Holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners](#)” (Heb 7:26).

“[Things counted gain, counted loss for Christ](#)” (Phil 3:7)

“[Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God...](#)”Rom 5:1.

Faith is needed in Jesus Christ finished work. Is your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ tonight? Have you trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ?

If you are trusting anything else then you are not saved.

Peace bought at highest price, the death of God's own Son.

Ps 50:3-6

When we stand before God He will declare for those who have trusted the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ. If we haven't accepted the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ we will stand in all our guilt as sinners.

Ps 50:16, v22 – Unless you trust the Lord Jesus Christ God will call you wicked.

2. Cor 5:20. Confess your sin to the Saviour. Ask for washing in His precious blood.

“[Look unto me and be ye saved all the ends of the earth](#)” (Isa 45:22)

“[Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out](#)” (John 6:37)

If you come to Him repenting He will make you a new creature (2 Cor 5:17; Rom 1:16-18).

When Christ died the Son bore the sin of the world.

“[Whosoever believeth](#)” is assured the wrath of God for their sin was poured out upon Christ at Calvary.

There is a Saviour for sinners tonight. Where will you stand in judgment day if your sin is not forgiven? “[Our God is a consuming fire](#)” but a God of love. He displayed His love at Calvary.