

# Justification: Why God is right to declare righteous the unrighteous

## Romans 3:21-26

Sunday 4 February 2018

1. **God's justifying righteousness was his plan all along (v21)**

<sup>21</sup>But now  
**the righteousness of God** has been manifested  
apart from the law  
although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it –

<sup>22</sup>**the righteousness of God**  
through faith in Jesus Christ  
for all who believe.

For there is no distinction:

<sup>23</sup>for all have sinned  
and fall short of the glory of God,

<sup>24</sup>and are **justified**  
by his grace  
as a gift,  
through the redemption  
that is in ...

... Christ Jesus,

<sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a propitiation  
by his blood,  
to be received by faith.

This was to show **God's righteousness**,  
because in his divine forbearance  
he had passed over former sins.

<sup>26</sup>It was to show **his righteousness**  
at the present time,  
so that he might be **just**  
and the **justifier** of the one  
who has faith in Jesus.

2. **God's justifying righteousness is received only by faith in Jesus (v22-23)**

3. **God's justifying righteousness comes only from Jesus' death as our propitiation (v24-25a)**

4. **By this God shows he is right to declare righteous the unrighteous (v25b-26)**