

***“The Breastplate of
Righteousness: Part IV”***

Ephesians 6:10-20

June 7, 2009

Hebrews 9:22

“...without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.”

Key Point...

The removal of our sins is a glorious and necessary starting point but in the end all it does is bring us back to a morally neutral state, to the state where Adam and Eve were in the garden.

Righteousness means...

- ...to be in right relationship with God and to do all that God requires.
- Notice that the definition says that to be righteous we must do “all” that God requires—why is this the standard?
- Since we all sin, how can we establish our righteousness before God?

Inherent Righteousness...

- ... refers to a person who has always been perfectly obedient to God and therefore is righteous in himself or herself.
 - Catholics argue for “imparted righteousness” but this is no solution (see Rom 14:23, James 2:10-11).

Romans 3:20-26

“²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 3:20-26

²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ 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.”

Galatians 2:16

“Yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.”

Ephesians 2:4-10

“4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us,⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:4-10

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

2 Corinthians 5:21

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

Philippians 3:8b-9

“For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.”

Romans 8:1-4

“¹ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,

Romans 8:1-4

4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”

Romans 8:31-39

“³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²

He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³

Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to

condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—

who is at the right hand of God, who

indeed is interceding for us.

Romans 8:31-39

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.' ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Romans 8:31-39

³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”