

# BRAGGING RIGHTS

A dramatic sunset or sunrise over a sea of clouds. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright vertical beam of light that extends upwards. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, and the overall color palette is dominated by warm oranges, yellows, and deep blues.



**“...we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; as it is written, ‘There is none righteous, not even one.’” Rom. 3:9-10**

**Righteousness: What is Right, just, equitable, or correct.**

**So how might any of us be made RIGHT WITH GOD?**

**God’s righteousness is:**

**1. GRANTED APART FROM THE LAW. Vs. 21**

**“But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets.”**

**“But even though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to that which we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to that which you received, let him be accursed.” Gal. 1:8-9**

**Legalists push group conformity.**

**Legalists emphasize obedience to man-made lists.**

**Legalists focus on external activities and appearances.**

**Legalists pull away from anyone who does not agree.**

**Legalists are troubled by those living in grace.**

**Legalists usually end up destroying one another.**

**Legalists know nothing of being led by the Spirit of God.**

**Legalists pile burdens on top of others.**

**“Is there a conflict, then, between God’s law and God’s promises? Absolutely not! If the law could give us new life, we could be made right with God by obeying it. But the Scriptures declare that we are all prisoners of sin, so we receive God’s promise of freedom only by believing in Jesus Christ.” Gal. 3:21-22 (NLT)**

**“For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the Law, to perform them.’ Gal. 3:10**



**2. GIVEN THRU FAITH. vs. 22a**

**“Even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ...”**

**3. AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE. vs. 22b-23**

**“...for all who believe; for there is no distinction; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”**

**4. ABSOLUTELYFREE. vs. 24-26**

**“Being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.” vs. 24**

**Justification: God’s declaration of righteousness pronounced freely to unworthy sinners.**

**“Whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God he passed over the sins previously committed; for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.” vs. 25-26**

**“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished upon us...” Eph. 1:7-8**

## **APPLICATION FOR ME:**

**A. What do we have to brag about?**

**“Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.” vs. 27-28**

**B. Is there any other way to be made right with God?**

**“Or is God the God of Jews only? Is He not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one.” vs. 29-30**

## **C. DOES GOD'S PLAN ABOLISH THE LAW?**

**“Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law.” vs. 31**

**“But may it never be that I should boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.” Gal. 6:14**

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