

Friday Morning Study

John 5:39-40 RSV

You search the scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness to me; yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. (Joh 5:39-40)

John 5:39-40 NEB

You study the scriptures diligently, supposing that in having them you have eternal life; yet, although their testimony points to me, you refuse to come to me for that life.

I. In quest for the truth about God: in a world filled with gods

a. How may we know God?

i. Not through wisdom (I Corinthians 1:20-24; II Corinthians 4:6, 10:3-6; Galatians 4:8-9; Colossians 1:9-10)

ii. Philippians 3:7-11 Whatever gain I had, I now consider a loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as dung, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, based on law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, a righteousness from God that is in fact based on Christ's faithfulness.; that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, so that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

b. How may we know God; Jesus told us: If you know me you would know my Father too. [Some witnesses read: If you know me you will know my Father too.] From now on you do know him; you have seen him. Philip asked him, "Lord, show us the Father and we ask no more." Jesus answered, "Have I been all this time with you, Philip, and you still do not know me? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. Then how can you say, "Show us the Father?" Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? I am not myself the source of the words I speak to you: it is the Father who dwells in me doing his own work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father in me; or else accept the evidence of the deeds themselves.

II. From beginning to end it is God's work: (Philippians 2:13; Ephesians 2:8-10)

III. This is the new righteousness - not a human accomplishment - a trust obedience in God

Romans 3:21-27 NET

But now apart from the law the righteousness of God (which is attested by the law and the prophets) has been disclosed— namely, the righteousness of God through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. But they are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. God publicly displayed him at his death as the mercy seat accessible through faith. This was to demonstrate his righteousness, because God in his forbearance had passed over the sins previously committed. This was also to demonstrate his righteousness in the present time, so that he would be just and the justifier of the one who lives because of Jesus' faithfulness. Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded! By what principle? Of works? No, but by the principle of faith!

Romans 3:21-27 NIV

But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith.

Romans 3:21-27 GAH

But now independent of the law, God's righteousness has been revealed (which both the law and the prophets bear witness to) – it is the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. But they are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. God publicly displayed him at his death as the mercy seat accessible through faith. This was to demonstrate his righteousness, because God in his forbearance had passed over the sins previously committed. This was also to demonstrate his righteousness in the present time, so that he would be just and the justifier of the one who lives because of Jesus' faithfulness. Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded! By what principle? Of works? No, but by the principle of faith!