

ACCEPTABLE TO GOD

ROMANS 3:21-24a

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: Man inherently does not have God's righteousness nor can he produce God's righteousness.

WITH GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS—God's righteousness is His moral character—without sin, perfect, holy, and just. His character is shown to us in the life of Jesus. It is also shown to us in His death when God's holiness and His abhorrence for sin was demonstrated on the cross as His wrath was poured out upon His Son. Here Jesus took upon Himself our sins, paying the penalty for sin and making it possible for God to give us His righteousness. (**Romans 3:21, fn 3:21-29, Romans 5:15-19, fn 5:15-19, Romans 10:1-4, fn 10:3-5, John 14:6, fn 14:5, 6**) *How does God make you acceptable to Him?*

THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST— Faith is a gift that is given to us by God. "Faith, as the Bible knows it, is confidence in God and His Son Jesus Christ; it is the response of the soul to the divine character as revealed in the Scriptures." A.W. Tozer, Man: The Dwelling Place of God, p.33. He has revealed to us that Jesus paid for our sins on the cross and exchanged our sin for His righteousness. (**Romans 3:22, Romans 1:17, fn 1:17[1st], Philippians 3:7-9, fn 3:9, Romans 3:27-4:5, fn 3:28, Romans 4:19-25, fn 4:25, II Corinthians 5:21, fn 5:21, Hebrews 11:6**) *Why does faith in Jesus Christ make you acceptable to Him?*

BY GRACE you are justified and declared righteous. Grace is God's power working in your heart, giving you faith to believe what Jesus has accomplished for you. Justification is a judicial act whereby God declares the sinner innocent (or justified.) It is a declaration of innocence and also liberation from the sin by which you had been held prisoner. Spiros Zodhiates, The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament, pp. 463. "Grace represents the divine activity in justification and and faith represent the human activity." Zodhiates, p.466. (**Romans 3:24a, fn 3:24, Romans 4:16, fn 4:16, Ephesians 2:3-9, fn 2:8-10, Galatians 2:15-21, fn 2:21**) *What is your role in obtaining Christ's righteousness and salvation?*

Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshipping together.