

Gospel Power

Week 3 - The Gift of Salvation

Romans 3:21-4:25

Day 1: Looking Forward to Salvation

Romans 3:21-22

Romans 1:2

2 Tim 1:10

Verse 21 marks a shift in both time and logic. Before this, God's righteousness in salvation hadn't been revealed—only His wrath. Now, through salvation, God offers people a right relationship with Him—not earned by following the OT law, but testified to by it.

Day 2: Big words, Huge God

Romans 3:23-26

All people have sinned and fall short of God's glory, breaking the relationship God intended for humanity. Sin isn't just wrongdoing—it's a broken connection with God. To restore that relationship, God provided salvation through Jesus, which Paul explains using two key concepts: First is redemption—Jesus paid the price for our freedom, similar to how God rescued Israel from Egypt at great cost.

Second is propitiation— which is a fancy way of saying Jesus became the sacrifice that removed God's wrath, satisfying both His justice and love. This salvation is a gift from God, received through faith in Jesus and made possible by His blood.

Day 3: Justified by Faith

Romans 3:27-31

God makes people right with Him through faith—not by following the Old Testament Law. If the law was the way to be justified, only Jews could be saved. But there's one God for everyone—Jews and Gentiles—and He saves all people the same way: through faith.

Faith doesn't cancel the law; it actually fulfills its purpose. The law was part of God's covenant with Israel, showing them how to live in relationship with Him. But simply following rules couldn't bring blessing—only faith could. True obedience comes from a heart of faith, empowered by the Spirit, which is how the law's purpose is fully realized.

Day 4: Father Abraham

Romans 4:1-12

Genesis 15:6

Ephesian 2:8-9

Abraham, the respected father of the Jewish people, was made right with God because of his faith—not his actions. In fact, God called him righteous before he was circumcised. Circumcision came later as a sign of his faith, not the reason for it.

Because Abraham was justified before circumcision, his example shows that this blessing is for everyone—both uncircumcised Gentiles and circumcised Jews. It's clear that righteousness comes through faith, not the law—because if it depended on the law, no one could receive it, since no one can keep the law perfectly.

Application:

How does understanding that salvation is a gift, not something you can earn, change the way you think about God?