

~DECLARE RIGHTEOUS (1595)

[Hebrew, *tsa-dheq'*, Greek, *di-kai'o-sis*]

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- The Hebrew verb *tsa-dheq'*, related to *tse'dheq*, meaning righteousness, at times is rendered declare righteous and pronounce righteous.
- You are to keep far from a false word. And do not kill the innocent and the righteous, for I shall not **declare** the wicked one **righteous**. (Exodus 23:7)
- In case a dispute arises between men, and they have presented themselves for the judgment, they must also judge them and pronounce the **righteous one righteous** and pronounce the wicked one wicked. (Deuteronomy 25:1)
- This Biblical expression is also rendered as justify, and the noun forms are translated justification.
- The original Greek words *di-kai-o'o*, verb, *di-kai'o-ma* and *di-kai'o-sis*, nouns, in the Christian Greek Scriptures, where the fullest explanation of the matter is found, basically carry the idea of absolving or clearing of any charge, holding as guiltless, and hence acquitting, or pronouncing and treating as righteous.[See W. Bauer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament (revised by F. W. Gingrich and F. Danker), 1979, pp. 197,198][also A Greek-English Lexicon, by H. Liddell and R. Scott (revised by H. Jones), Oxford, 1968, p. 429)
- Thus the apostle Paul speaks of God as being **proved righteous**, form of *di-kai-o'o*, in His words and winning when being judged by detractors.
- Never may that happen! But let God be found true, though every man be found a liar, even as it is written: That you might be

proved righteous in your words and might win when you are being judged. (**Romans 3:4**)

- Jesus said that wisdom is **proved righteous** by its works and that, when rendering an account on Judgment Day, men would be **declared** righteous form of *di-kai-o'o* or condemned by their words.
- The Son of man did come eating and drinking, still people say; Look! A man gluttonous and given to drinking wine, a friend of tax collectors and sinners. All the same, wisdom is **proved righteous** by its works. (**Matthew 11:19**)
- I tell you that every unprofitable saying that men speak, they will render an account concerning it on Judgment Day. (**Matthew 12:36**)
- For by your words you will be **declared righteous**, and by your words you will be **condemned**. (**Matthew 12:37**)
- Jesus said that the humble tax collector who prayed repentantly in the temple went down to his home **proved more righteous** than the boastful Pharisee praying at the same time.
- But he spoke this illustration also to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and who considered the rest as nothing. (**Luke 18:9**)
- Two men went up into the temple to pray, the one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. (**Luke 18:10**)
- The Pharisee stood and began to pray these things to himself, O God, I thank you I am not as the rest of men, extortioners, unrighteous, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. (**Luke 18:11**)
- I fast twice a week, I give the tenth of all things I acquire. (**Luke 18:12**)
- But the tax collector standing at a distance was not willing even to raise his eyes heavenward, but kept beating his breast, saying; O God, be gracious to me a sinner. (**Luke 18:13**)
- I tell you, This man went down to his home **proved more righteous** than that man, because everyone that exalts himself

will be humiliated, but he that humbles himself will be exalted.
([Luke 18:14](#))

- Consequently he said to them; YOU are those who **declare** yourselves **righteous** before men, but God knows your hearts, because what is lofty among men is a disgusting thing in God's sight. ([Luke 16:15](#))
- The apostle Paul states that the person who dies is acquitted form of Greek *di-kai-o'o* from his sin, having paid the penalty of death.
- For he who has died has been **acquitted from his sin**. ([Romans 6:7](#))
- For the wages sin pays is death, but the gift God gives is everlasting life by Christ Jesus our Lord. ([Romans 6:23](#))
- However, in addition to such usages, these Greek words are used in a special sense as referring to an act of God whereby one is accounted **guiltless**.
- Let it therefore be known to you, brothers, that through this One a forgiveness of sins is being published to you. ([Acts of Apostles 13:38](#))
- And that from all the things from which you could not be **declared guiltless** by means of the Law of Moses, everyone who believes is **declared guiltless** by means of this One. ([Acts of Apostles 13:39](#))
- Who will file accusation against God's chosen ones? God is the One who **declares** them **righteous**. ([Romans 8:33](#))
- And also to God's act in declaring a person perfect in integrity and judged worthy of the right to life, as will be seen.

•• In Pre-Christian Times

- Originally, Adam was perfect, a righteous man, a human son of God.
- Son of Enosh, son of Seth, son of Adam, son of God. ([Luke 3:38](#))

- He was **righteous** by virtue of God's creation of him and was **declared** very good by his Creator.
- After that God saw everything he had made and, look! It was very good. And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a sixth day. (**Genesis 1:31**)
- But he failed to maintain integrity before God and lost righteousness for himself and for his future offspring.
- And to Adam he said; Because you listened to your wife's voice and took to eating from the tree concerning which I gave you this command, You must not eat from it, cursed is the ground on your account. In pain you will eat its produce all the days of your life. (**Genesis 3:17**)
- And thorns and thistles it will grow for you, and you must eat the vegetation of the field. (**Genesis 3:18**)
- In the sweat of your face you will eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For dust you are and to dust you will return. (**Genesis 3:19**)
- That is why, just as through one man sin entered into the world and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men because they had all sinned. (**Romans 5:12**)
- Nevertheless, from among his descendants there came men of faith who walked with the true God, such as Noah, Enoch, and Job.
- And after his fathering Methuselah Enoch went on walking with the true God three hundred years. Meanwhile he became father to sons and daughters. (**Genesis 5:22**)
- This is the history of Noah. Noah was a righteous man. He proved himself faultless among his contemporaries. Noah walked with the true God. (**Genesis 6:9**)
- After that Yehowah said to Noah; Go, you and all your household, into the ark, because you are the one I have seen to be righteous before me among this generation. (**Genesis 7:1**)
- There happened to be a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job, and that man proved to be blameless and upright, and

- fearing God and turning aside from bad. (**Job 1:1**)
- And Yehowah went on to say to Satan; Have you set your heart upon my servant Job, that there is no one like him in the earth, a man blameless and upright, fearing God and turning aside from bad? (**Job 1:8**)
 - And Yehowah went on to say to Satan; Have you set your heart upon my servant Job, that there is no one like him in the earth, a man blameless and upright, fearing God and turning aside from bad? Even yet he is holding fast his integrity, although you incite me against him to swallow him up without cause. (**Job 2:3**)
 - Of Abraham, it is stated that he exercised faith in God and was **declared righteous**, also, it is written that Rahab of Jericho manifested her faith by her works and so was **declared righteous**, her life being spared when the city of Jericho was destroyed.
 - Was not Abraham our father **declared righteous** by works after he had offered up Isaac his son upon the altar? (**James 2:21**)
 - You behold that his faith worked along with his works and by his works his faith was perfected. (**James 2:22**)
 - And the scripture was fulfilled which says; Abraham put faith in Yehowah, and it was counted to him as righteousness, and he came to be called Yehowah's friend. (**James 2:23**)
 - In the same manner was not also Rahab the harlot **declared righteous** by works, after she had received the messengers hospitably and sent them out by another way? (**James 2:25**)
 - It may be noted that in James epistle, as cited, and also in Paul's letter to the Romans.
 - For what does the scripture say: Abraham exercised faith in Yehowah, and it was counted to him as righteousness. (**Romans 4:3**)
 - Now to the man that works the pay is counted, not as an undeserved kindness, but as a debt. (**Romans 4:4**)
 - On the other hand, to the man that does not work but puts faith in him who declares the ungodly one righteous, his faith is

counted as righteousness. (**Romans 4:5**)

- Does this happiness, then, come upon circumcised people or also upon uncircumcised people? For we say; His faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness. (**Romans 4:9**)
- Under what circumstances, then, was it counted? When he was in circumcision or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision. (**Romans 4:10**)
- And he received a sign, namely, circumcision, as a seal of the righteousness by the faith he had while in his uncircumcised state, that he might be the father of all those having faith while in uncircumcision, in order for righteousness to be counted to them. (**Romans 4:11**)
- In which he quotes
- And he put faith in Yehowah, and he proceeded to count it to him as righteousness. (**Genesis 15:6**)
- It is stated that Abraham's faith was counted to him as righteousness. Understanding of this expression is aided by considering the sense of the **Greek** verb *lo-gi'zo-mai*, **count**, here used.

•• How Counted Righteous

- This **Greek** verb *lo-gi'zo-mai* was used regularly in ancient times for numerical calculations or computations such as in accounting, being used when referring both to something that was entered on the **debit side of an account** and also to something entered on the credit side thereof. In the Bible it is used to mean reckon, credit, count, or take into account.
- Does not behave indecently, does not look for its own interests, does not become provoked. It does not **keep account** of the injury. (**1 Corinthians 13:5**)
- Says that love **does not keep account**, form of **Greek** *lo-gi'zo-mai*, **of the injury**
- In my first defense no one came to my side, but they all proceeded to forsake me, may it not be put to their account. (**2 Timothy 4:16**)

- **And the psalmist David is quoted as saying; Happy is the man whose sin Yehowah will by no means take into account.**
- **Happy is the man whose sin Yehowah will by no means take into account. (Romans 4:8)**
- **Paul showed to those who looked at things according to their face value the need to make a proper evaluation of matters, to look at both sides of the ledger, as it were.**
- **Indeed I beg that, when present, I may not use boldness with that confidence with which I am counting on taking bold measures against some who appraise us as if we walked according to what we are in the flesh. (2 Corinthians 10:2)**
- **You look at things according to their face value. If anyone trusts in himself that he belongs to Christ, let him again take this fact into account for himself, that, just as he belongs to Christ, so do we also. (2 Corinthians 10:7)**
- **For, say they; His letters are weighty and forceful, but his presence in person is weak and his speech contemptible. (2 Corinthians 10:10)**
- **Let such a man take this into account, that what we are in our word by letters when absent, such we shall also be in action when present. (2 Corinthians 10:11)**
- **For we do not dare to class ourselves among some or compare ourselves with some who recommend themselves. Certainly they in measuring themselves by themselves and comparing themselves with themselves have no understanding. (2 Corinthians 10:12)**
- **At the same time, Paul was concerned that no one should put to his credit form of, *lo-gi'zo-mai*; more than was correct as regards his ministry.**
- **For if I ever do want to boast, I shall not be unreasonable, for I shall say the truth. But I abstain, in order, that no one should put to my credit more than what he sees I am or he hears from me. (2 Corinthians 12:6)**

- Just because of the excess of the revelations. Therefore, that I might not feel overly exalted, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan, to keep slapping me, that I might not be overly exalted. (**2 Corinthians 12:7**)
 - The **Greek** word *lo-gi'zo-mai* may also mean esteem, appraise, count, rate, or reckon, with a group, class, or type.
 - Let a man so **appraise** us as being subordinates of Christ and stewards of sacred secrets of God. (**1 Corinthians 4:1**)
 - Thus Jesus said that he would be reckoned form of *lo-gi'zo-mai* with lawless ones, that is, counted or classed as in among them or as if one of them.
 - For I tell you that this which is written must be accomplished in me, namely, And he was reckoned with lawless ones. For that which concerns me is having an accomplishment. (**Luke 22:37**)
 - In his letter to the Romans, the apostle says that in the case of the uncircumcised person keeping the Law, his uncircumcision will be counted as circumcision, that is, estimated or looked upon as if it were circumcision.
 - If, therefore, an uncircumcised person keeps the righteous requirements of the Law, his uncircumcision will be counted as circumcision, will it not? (**Romans 2:26**)
 - In a similar sense, Christians were urged to reckon themselves to be dead as regards sin but alive as regards God by Christ Jesus.
 - Likewise also you, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed with reference to sin, but living with reference to God by Christ Jesus. (**Romans 6:11**)
 - And anointed Christians from among the Gentiles, though not fleshly descendants of Abraham, were counted as the seed of Abraham.
 - That is, the children in the flesh are not really the children of God, but the children by the promise are counted as the seed. (**Romans 9:8**)
- **How Could Abraham Be Declared Righteous Before Christ's Death**

- **So, also, Abraham's faith, combined with works, was counted, reckoned, credited, or attributed to him as righteousness.**
- **But because of the promise of God he did not waver in a lack of faith, but became powerful by his faith, giving God glory (Romans 4:20)**
- **And being fully convinced that what he had promised he was also able to do. (Romans 4:21)**
- **Hence it was counted to him as righteousness. (Romans 4:22)**
- **This, of course, does not mean that he and other faithful men of pre-Christian times were perfect or free from sin, yet, by virtue of their exercise of faith in God's promise concerning the seed and because they were striving to follow God's commands, they were not classed as unrighteous with no standing before God, like the rest of the world of mankind.**
- **And I shall put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed. He will bruise you in the head and you will bruise him in the heel. (Genesis 3:15)**
- **Happy are those observing his reminders, with all the heart they keep searching for him. (Psalms 119:2)**
- **Really they have practiced no unrighteousness. In his ways they have walked. (Psalms 119:3)**
- **Yehowah lovingly accounted them guiltless, when compared with the world of mankind alienated from God.**
- **Happy is the one whose revolt is pardoned, whose sin is covered. (Psalms 32:1)**
- **Happy is the man to whose account Yehowah does not put error, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. (Psalms 32:2)**
- **That you were at that particular time without Christ, alienated from the state of Israel and strangers to the covenants of the promise, and you had no hope and were without God in the world. (Ephesians 2:12)**

- **Thus, God could, by reason of their faith, have dealings with such imperfect men and bless them, doing so while still remaining true to his own perfect standards of justice.**
- **Continue your loving-kindness to those knowing you, and your righteousness to those upright in heart. (Psalms 36:10)**
- **However, such ones recognized their need for redemption from sin and were awaiting God's due time to provide it.**
- **Not one of them can by any means redeem even a brother, nor give to God a ransom for him. (Psalms 49:7)**
- **And the redemption price of their soul is so precious that it has ceased to time indefinite (Psalms 49:8)**
- **That he should still live forever and not see the pit. (Psalms 49:9)**
- **Otherwise, he would have to suffer often from the founding of the world. But now he has manifested himself once for all time at the conclusion of the systems of things to put sin away through the sacrifice of himself. (Hebrews 9:26)**

· Christ Jesus', One Act Of Justification

- **The Scriptures show that Jesus Christ when on earth was actually perfect in human organism.**
- **For you know that it was not with corruptible things, with silver or gold, that you were delivered from your fruitless form of conduct received by tradition from your forefathers. (1 Peter 1:18)**
- **But it was with precious blood, like that of an unblemished and spotless lamb, even Christ's. (1 Peter 1:19)**
- **And that he maintained his perfection by continuing to retain and strengthen his integrity under test. This was in accord with God's purpose to make the Chief Agent of salvation perfect through sufferings.**
- **For it was fitting for the one for whose sake all things are and through whom all things are, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the Chief Agent of their salvation perfect through**

sufferings. (**Hebrews 2:10**)

- **That is, Jesus was perfected as to obedience and integrity keeping and was perfected for his position as God's High Priest of salvation, as Paul shows at;**
- **In the days of his flesh Christ offered up supplications and also petitions to the One who was able to save him out of death, with strong outcries and tears, and he was favorably heard for his godly fear. (**Hebrews 5:7**)**
- **Although he was a Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. (**Hebrews 5:8**)**
- **And after he had been made perfect he became responsible for everlasting salvation to all those obeying him. (**Hebrews 5:9**)**
- **Because he has been specifically called by God a High Priest according to the manner of Melchizedek. (**Hebrews 5:10**)**
- **Finishing his earthly course free from flaw in any sense of the word, Jesus was acknowledged by God as justified. He was thus the only man who, through test, stood firmly and positively just, or righteous before God on his own merit.**
- **By this one act of justification from Greek of *di-kai'o-ma* that is, by Jesus proving himself perfectly righteous through his entire flawless course, including his sacrifice, he provided the basis for declaring righteous those persons having faith in Christ.**
- **For if by the trespass of the one man death ruled as king through that one, much more will those who receive the abundance of the undeserved kindness and of the free gift of righteousness rule as kings in life through the one person, Jesus Christ. (**Romans 5:17**)**
- **So, then, as through one trespass the result to men of all sorts was condemnation, likewise also through one act of justification the result to men of all sorts is a declaring of them righteous for life. (**Romans 5:18**)**
- **For just as through the disobedience of the one man many were constituted sinners, likewise also through the obedience of the one person many will be constituted righteous. (**Romans 5:19**)**

- God set him forth as an offering for propitiation through faith in his blood. This was in order to exhibit his own righteousness, because he was forgiving the sins that occurred in the past while God was exercising forbearance. (**Romans 3:25**)
- So as to exhibit his own righteousness in this present season, that he might be righteous even when declaring righteous the man that has faith in Jesus. (**Romans 3:26**)
- He was delivered up for the sake of our trespasses and was raised up for the sake of declaring us righteous. (**Romans 4:25**)

•• In The Christian Congregation

- With the coming of God's Son as the promised Redeemer, a new factor existed upon which God could base his dealings with his human servants. The followers of Jesus Christ who are called to be his spiritual brothers, with the prospect of being joint heirs with him in the heavenly Kingdom
- If, then, we are children, we are also heirs. Heirs indeed of God, but joint heirs with Christ, provided we suffer together that we may also be glorified together. (**Romans 8:17**)
- Are first **declared righteous** by God on the basis of their faith in Jesus Christ.
- And it is as a free gift that they are being **declared righteous** by his undeserved kindness through the release by the ransom paid by Christ Jesus. (**Romans 3:24**)
- For we reckon that a man is **declared righteous** by faith apart from works of law. (**Romans 3:28**)
- This is a judicial act of Yehowah God. Therefore before him as the Supreme Judge no one can file accusation against his chosen ones.
- Who will file accusation against God's chosen ones? God is the One who **declares** them **righteous**. (**Romans 8:33**)
- Who is he that will condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died, yes, rather the one who was raised up from the dead, who is on the right hand of God, who also pleads for us. (**Romans 8:34**)

- **Why does God take this action toward them?**
- **First, it is because Yehowah is perfect and holy**
- **And this one called to that one and said; Holy, holy, holy is Yehowah of armies. The fullness of all the earth is his glory. (Isaiah 6:3)**
- **Hence, in harmony with his holiness, those whom he accepts as his sons must be perfect.**
- **The Rock, perfect is his activity, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness, with whom there is no injustice. Righteous and upright is he. (Deuteronomy 32:4)**
- **They have acted ruinously on their own part, They are not his children, the defect is their own. A generation crooked and twisted! (Deuteronomy 32:5)**
- **Jesus Christ, God's chief Son, showed himself perfect, loyal, guileless, undefiled, separated from the sinners.**
- **For such a High Priest as this was suitable for us, loyal, guileless, undefiled, separated from the sinners, and become higher than the heavens. (Hebrews 7:26)**
- **His followers, however, are taken from among the sons of Adam, who, because of sin, fathered an imperfect, sinful family.**
- **That is why, just as through one man sin entered into the world and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men because they had all sinned. (Romans 5:12)**
- **For just as in Adam all are dying, so also in the Christ all will be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15:22)**
- **Thus, as;**
- **However, as many as did receive him, to them he gave authority to become God's children, because they were exercising faith in his name. (John 1:12)**
- **And they were born, not from blood or from a fleshly will or from man's will, but from God. (John 1:13)**

- **Shows, Jesus followers were not, to begin with, sons of God. By his undeserved kindness, Yehowah God arranged a process of adoption through which he accepts such favored ones and brings them into a spiritual relationship as part of his family of sons.**
- **For you did not receive a spirit of slavery causing fear again, but you received a spirit of adoption as sons, by which spirit we cry out; Abba, Father! (Romans 8:15)**
- **The spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are God's children. (Romans 8:16)**
- **See what sort of love the Father has given us, so that we should be called children of God, and such we are. That is why the world does not have a knowledge of us, because it has not come to know him. (1 John 3:1)**
- **Consequently, God lays the basis for their entry into or their adoption to sonship by declaring them righteous through the merit of Christ's ransom sacrifice in which they exercise faith, acquitting them of all guilt due to sin.**
- **Therefore, now that we have been **declared** righteous as a result of faith, let us enjoy peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 5:1)**
- **Through whom also we have gained our approach by faith into this undeserved kindness in which we now stand, and let us exult, based on hope of the glory of God. (Romans 5:2)**
- **But God recommends his own love to us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)**
- **Much more, therefore, since we have been **declared** righteous now by his blood, shall we be saved through him from wrath. (Romans 5:9)**
- **For if, when we were enemies, we became reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more, now that we have become reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. (Romans 5:10)**
- **And not only that, but we are also exulting in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the**

reconciliation. (**Romans 5:11**)

- However, as many as did receive him, to them he gave authority to become God's children, because they were exercising faith in his name. (**John 1:12**)
- They are, therefore, counted, or credited, as being completely righteous persons, all their sins being forgiven and not charged against them.
- Just as David also speaks of the happiness of the man to whom God counts righteousness apart from works. (**Romans 4:6**)
- Happy are those whose lawless deeds have been pardoned and whose sins have been covered. (**Romans 4:7**)
- Happy is the man whose sin Yehowah will by no means take into account. (**Romans 4:8**)
- Therefore those in union with Christ Jesus have no condemnation. (**Romans 8:1**)
- For the Law of that spirit which gives life in union with Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. (**Romans 8:2**)
- But this man offered one sacrifice for sins perpetually and sat down at the right hand of God. (**Hebrews 10:12**)
- For it is by one sacrificial offering that he has made those who are being sanctified perfect perpetually. (**Hebrews 10:14**)
- This **declaring** of such Christians **righteous**, therefore, goes much farther than in the case of Abraham, and other pre-Christian servants of Yehowah, previously discussed. Indicating the scope of Abraham's justification, the disciple James wrote:
 - But do you care to know, O empty man, that faith apart from works is inactive? (**James 2:20**)
 - Was not Abraham our father **declared righteous** by works after he had offered up Isaac his son upon the altar? (**James 2:21**)
 - You behold that his faith worked along with his works and by his

works his faith was perfected. (**James 2:22**)

- And the scripture was fulfilled which says; Abraham put faith in Yehowah, and it was **counted** to him as **righteousness**, and he came to be called Yehowah's friend. (**James 2:23**)
- So, because of his faith, Abraham was **declared righteous** as a friend of God, not as a son of God because of being born again with heavenly life in view.
- In answer Jesus said to him; Most truly I say to you, unless anyone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (**John 3:3**)
- The Scriptural record makes clear that prior to Christ's coming neither such sonship nor such a heavenly hope had been opened up to men.
- However, as many as did receive him, to them he gave authority to become God's children, because they were exercising faith in his name. (**John 1:12**)
- Because the Law was given through Moses, the undeserved kindness and the truth came to be through Jesus Christ. (**John 1:17**)
- No man has seen God at any time, the only-begotten god who is in the bosom position with the Father is the one that has explained him. (**John 1:18**)
- But now it has been made clearly evident through the manifestation of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has abolished death but has shed light upon life and incorruption through the Good News. (**2 Timothy 1:10**)
- Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for according to his great mercy he gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (**1 Peter 1:3**)
- See what sort of love the Father has given us, so that we should be called children of God, and such we are. That is why the world does not have a knowledge of us, because it has not come to know him. (**1 John 3:1**)

- **It can be seen that, though enjoying the status of righteous persons before God, these Christians do not possess actual or literal perfection in the flesh.**
- **If we make the statement; We have no sin. We are misleading ourselves and the truth is not in us. (1 John 1:8)**
- **My little children, I am writing you these things that you may not commit a sin. And yet, if anyone does commit a sin, we have a helper with the Father, Jesus Christ, a righteous one. (1 John 2:1)**
- **In view of the prospect of heavenly life for these followers of Christ, such literal perfection in fleshly organism now is not actually needed.**
- **So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption, it is raised up in incorruption. (1 Corinthians 15:42)**
- **It is sown in dishonor, it is raised up in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised up in power. (1 Corinthians 15:43)**
- **It is sown a physical body, it is raised up a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual one. (1 Corinthians 15:44)**
- **However, this I say brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit God's kingdom, neither does corruption inherit incorruption. (1 Corinthians 15:50)**
- **Consequently, holy brothers, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the apostle and High Priest whom we confess, Jesus. (Hebrews 3:1)**
- **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for according to his great mercy he gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)**
- **To an incorruptible and undefiled and unfading inheritance. It is reserved in the heavens for you. (1 Peter 1:4)**

- However, by their being **declared righteous**, having **righteousness counted**, or **credited**, to them, God's requirements of justice are satisfied, and he brings the adopted ones into the New Covenant validated by the blood of Jesus Christ.

- Also, the cup in the same way after they had the evening meal, he saying; This cup means the New Covenant by virtue of my blood, which is to be poured out in your behalf. (**Luke 22:20**)

- For this means my blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out in behalf of many for forgiveness of sins. (**Matthew 26:28**)

- These adopted spiritual sons in the New Covenant that is made with Spiritual Israel are baptized into Christ's death, eventually dying a death like his.

- Or do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? (**Romans 6:3**)

- Therefore we were buried with him through our baptism into his death, in order, that, just as Christ was raised up from the dead through the glory of the Father, we also should likewise walk in a newness of life. (**Romans 6:4**)

- For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we shall certainly also be united with him in the likeness of his resurrection. (**Romans 6:5**)

- So as to know him and the power of his resurrection and a sharing in his sufferings, submitting myself to a death like his. (**Philippians 3:10**)

- To see if I may by any means attain to the earlier resurrection from the dead. (**Philippians 3:11**)

- Although Yehowah forgives their sins of fleshly weakness and imperfection, nevertheless, a conflict exists in these Christians, as illustrated in Paul's letter to the

- I find, then, this Law in my case, that when I wish to do what is right, what is bad is present with me. (**Romans 7:21**)

- I really delight in the Law of God according to the man I am within. (**Romans 7:22**)

- **But I behold in my members another Law warring against the Law of my mind and leading me captive to sins Law that is in my members. (Romans 7:23)**
- **Miserable man that I am! Who will rescue me from the body undergoing this death? (Romans 7:24)**
- **Thanks to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So, then, with my mind I myself am a slave to God's Law, but with my flesh to sins law. (Romans 7:25)**
- **It is between the Law of their renewed mind,**
- **And quit being fashioned after this system of things, but be transformed by making your mind over, that you may prove to yourselves the good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (Romans 12:2)**
- **But that you should be made new in the force actuating your mind. (Ephesians 4:23)**
- **Or God's Law, and sins law that is in their members. This is because their fleshly bodies are not perfected, even though they are **counted righteous** and their sins are forgiven.**
- **This conflict contributes to the test of their integrity toward God. They can win this conflict by the help of God's spirit and with the assistance of their merciful High Priest, Christ Jesus.**
- **Thanks to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So, then, with my mind I myself am a slave to God's Law, but with my flesh to sins law. (Romans 7:25)**
- **Consequently he was obliged to become like his brothers in all respects, that he might become a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, in order to offer propitiatory sacrifice for the sins of the people. (Hebrews 2:17)**
- **For in that he himself has suffered when being put to the test, he is able to come to the aid of those who are being put to the test. (Hebrews 2:18)**

- To win, however, they must constantly exercise faith in Christ's ransom sacrifice and follow him, thus maintaining their **righteousness** in God's eyes.
- He that is doing unrighteousness, let him do unrighteousness still, and let the filthy one be made filthy still, but let the righteous one do righteousness still, and let the holy one be made holy still. (**Revelation 22:11**)
- Thereby they make their calling and choosing sure for themselves.
- For this reason, brothers, all the more do your utmost to make the calling and choosing of you sure for yourselves, for if you keep on doing these things you will by no means ever fail. (**2 Peter 1:10**)
- Therefore, now that we have been **declared righteous** as a result of faith, let us enjoy peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (**Romans 5:1**)
- Much more, therefore, since we have been **declared righteous** now by his blood, shall we be saved through him from wrath. (**Romans 5:9**)
- Not only that, but we ourselves also who have the firstfruits, namely, the spirit, yes, we ourselves groan within ourselves, while we are earnestly waiting for adoption as sons, the release from our bodies by ransom. (**Romans 8:23**)
- For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope, for when a man sees a thing, does he hope for it? (**Romans 8:24**)
- But if we hope for what we do not see, we keep on waiting for it with endurance. (**Romans 8:25**)
- In like manner the spirit also joins in with help for our weakness, for the problem of what we should pray for as we need to we do not know, but the spirit itself pleads for us with groanings unuttered. (**Romans 8:26**)
- Yet he who searches the hearts knows what the meaning of the spirit is, because it is pleading in accord with God for holy ones. (**Romans 8:27**)

- **Now we know that God makes all his works cooperate together for the good of those who love God, those who are the ones called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28)**
- **Because those whom he gave his first recognition he also foreordained to be patterned after the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. (Romans 8:29)**
- **Moreover, those whom he foreordained are the ones he also called, and those whom he called are the ones he also **declared** to be **righteous**. Finally those whom he declared righteous are the ones he also glorified. (Romans 8:30)**
- **What, then, shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who will be against us? (Romans 8:31)**
- **He who did not even spare his own Son but delivered him up for us all, why will he not also with him kindly give us all other things? (Romans 8:32)**
- **Who will file accusation against God's chosen ones? God is the One who **declares** them **righteous**. (Romans 8:33)**
- **Who is he that will condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died, yes, rather the one who was raised up from the dead, who is on the right hand of God, who also pleads for us. (Romans 8:34)**
- **This spirit he poured out richly upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. (Titus 3:6)**
- **That, after being **declared righteous** by virtue of the undeserved kindness of that one, we might become heirs according to a hope of everlasting life. (Titus 3:7)**
- **If, on the other hand, they take up the **practice** of sin, falling away from the faith, they lose their favored standing before God as righteous persons because they impale the Son of God afresh for themselves and expose him to public shame.**
- **For it is impossible as regards those who have once for all been enlightened, and who have tasted the heavenly free gift, and who have become partakers of Holy Spirit. (Hebrews 6:4)**

- **And who have tasted the fine word of God and powers of the coming system of things. (Hebrews 6:5)**
- **But who have fallen away, to revive them again to repentance, because they impale the Son of God afresh for themselves and expose him to public shame. (Hebrews 6:6)**
- **For example, the ground that drinks in the rain which often comes upon it, and that then brings forth vegetation suitable to those for whom it is also cultivated, receives in return a blessing from God. (Hebrews 6:7)**
- **But if it produces thorns and thistles, it is rejected and is near to being cursed, and it ends up with being burned. (Hebrews 6:8)**
- **Face destruction**
- **For if we practice sin willfully after having received the accurate knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice for sins left. (Hebrews 10:26)**
- **But there is a certain fearful expectation of judgment and there is a fiery jealousy that is going to consume those in opposition. (Hebrews 10:27)**
- **Any man that has disregarded the Law of Moses dies without compassion, upon the testimony of two or three. (Hebrews 10:28)**
- **Of how much more severe a punishment, do you think, will the man be counted worthy who has trampled upon the Son of God and who has esteemed as of ordinary value the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and who has outraged the spirit of undeserved kindness with contempt? (Hebrews 10:29)**
- **For we know him that said; Vengeance is mine. I will recompense. And again; Yehowah will judge his people. (Hebrews 10:30)**
- **It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. (Hebrews 10:31)**
- **But my righteous one will live by reason of faith, and, if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him. (Hebrews 10:38)**

- **Now we are not the sort that shrink back to destruction, but the sort that have faith to the preserving alive of the soul. ([Hebrews 10:39](#))**
- **Thus, Jesus spoke of the sin that has no forgiveness, and the apostle John distinguished between the sin that does not incur death, and the sin that does incur death.**
- **On this account I say to you, Every sort of sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the spirit will not be forgiven. ([Matthew 12:31](#))**
- **For example, whoever speaks a word against the Son of man, it will be forgiven him. But whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, no, not in this system of things nor in that to come. ([Matthew 12:32](#))**
- **If anyone catches sight of his brother sinning a sin that does not incur death, he will ask, and he will give life to him, yes, to those not sinning so as to incur death. There is a sin that does incur death. It is concerning that sin that I do not tell him to make request. ([1 John 5:16](#))**
- **All unrighteousness is sin, and yet there is a sin that does not incur death. ([1 John 5:17](#))**
- **Jesus Christ, after maintaining his faithfulness until death, was made alive in the spirit, given immortality and incorruption.**
- **Why, even Christ died once for all time concerning sins, a righteous person for unrighteous ones, that he might lead you to God, he being put to death in the flesh, but being made alive in the spirit. ([1 Peter 3:18](#))**
- **So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption, it is raised up in incorruption. ([1 Corinthians 15:42](#))**
- **It is even so written: The first man Adam became a living soul. The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ([1 Corinthians 15:45](#))**
- **The one alone having immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom not one of men has seen or can see. To him be honor and might everlasting. Amen. ([1 Timothy 6:16](#))**

- He was thus **declared**, or pronounced, **righteous** in spirit.
- Indeed, the sacred secret of this godly devotion is admittedly great. He was made manifest in flesh, was **declared righteous** in spirit, appeared to angels, was preached about among nations, was believed upon in the world, was received up in glory. (**1 Timothy 3:16**)
- Which he promised aforetime through his prophets in the holy Scriptures. (**Romans 1:2**)
- Concerning his Son, who sprang from the seed of David according to the flesh. (**Romans 1:3**)
- But who with power was **declared** God's Son according to the spirit of holiness by means of resurrection from the dead, yes, Jesus Christ our Lord. (**Romans 1:4**)
- And sat down at the right hand of God in the heavens.
- Now as to the things being discussed this is the main point; We have such a High Priest as this, and he has sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens. (**Hebrews 8:1**)
- For this very reason also God exalted him to a superior position and kindly gave him the name that is above every other name. (**Philippians 2:9**)
- So that in the name of Jesus every knee should bend of those in heaven and those on earth and those under the ground. (**Philippians 2:10**)
- And every tongue should openly acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. (**Philippians 2:11**)
- The faithful footstep followers of Christ await a resurrection like his.
- For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we shall certainly also be united with him in the likeness of his resurrection. (**Romans 6:5**)
- Looking forward to becoming recipients of divine nature.

- **Through these things he has freely given us the precious and very grand promises, that through these you may become sharers in divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world through lust. (2 Peter 1:4)**

•• **Other Righteous Ones**

- **In one of Jesus illustrations, or parables, relating to the time of his coming in Kingdom glory, persons likened to sheep are designated as **righteous ones**.**
- **When the Son of man arrives in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit down on his glorious throne. (Matthew 25:31)**
- **And all the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. (Matthew 25:32)**
- **And he will put the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on his left. (Matthew 25:33)**
- **Then the king will say to those on his right; Come, you who have been blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the founding of the world. (Matthew 25:34)**
- **For I became hungry and you gave me something to eat; I got thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you received me hospitably. (Matthew 25:35)**
- **Naked, and you clothed me. I fell sick and you looked after me. I was in prison and you came to me. (Matthew 25:36)**
- **Then the righteous ones will answer him with the words; Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty, and give you something to drink? (Matthew 25:37)**
- **When did we see you a stranger and receive you hospitably, or naked, and clothe you? (Matthew 25:38)**
- **When did we see you sick or in prison and go to you? (Matthew 25:39)**

- **And in reply the king will say to them; Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me. (Matthew 25:40)**
- **Then he will say in turn, to those on his left; Be on your way from me, you who have been cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and his angels. (Matthew 25:41)**
- **For I became hungry, but you gave me nothing to eat, and I got thirsty, but you gave me nothing to drink. (Matthew 25:42)**
- **I was a stranger, but you did not receive me hospitably, naked, but you did not clothe me. Sick and in prison, but you did not look after me. (Matthew 25:43)**
- **Then they also will answer with the words; Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not minister to you? (Matthew 25:44)**
- **Then he will answer them with the words; Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of these least ones, you did not do it to me. (Matthew 25:45)**
- **And these will depart into everlasting cutting-off, but the righteous ones into everlasting life. (Matthew 25:46)**
- **It is notable, however, that in this illustration these **righteous ones** are presented as separate and distinct from those whom Christ calls my brothers.**
- **Then the king will say to those on his right, Come, you who have been blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the founding of the world. (Matthew 25:34)**
- **Then the righteous ones will answer him with the words, Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty, and give you something to drink? (Matthew 25:37)**
- **And in reply the king will say to them; Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me. (Matthew 25:40)**
- **And these will depart into everlasting cutting-off, but the righteous ones into everlasting life. (Matthew 25:46)**

- **For it was fitting for the one for whose sake all things are and through whom all things are, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the Chief Agent of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ([Hebrews 2:10](#))**
- **For both he who is sanctifying and those who are being sanctified all stem from one, and for this cause he is not ashamed to call them brothers. ([Hebrews 2:11](#))**
- **Because these sheeplike ones render assistance to Christ's spiritual brothers, thus demonstrating faith in Christ himself, they are blessed by God and are called **righteous ones**. Like Abraham, they are accounted, or **declared**, **righteous** as **friends** of God.**
- **And the scripture was fulfilled which says; Abraham put faith in Yehowah, and it was counted to him as righteousness, and he came to be called Yehowah's friend. ([James 2:23](#))**
- **This righteous standing will mean survival for them when the goats depart into everlasting cutting-off.**
- **And these will depart into everlasting cutting-off, but the righteous ones into everlasting life. ([Matthew 25:46](#))**
- **A parallel situation may be noted in the vision recorded at;**
- **Saying; Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until after we have sealed the slaves of our God in their foreheads. ([Revelation 7:3](#))**
- **And I heard the number of those who were sealed, a hundred and forty-four thousand, sealed out of every tribe of the sons of Israel. ([Revelation 7:4](#))**
- **Out of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand sealed. Out of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand. Out of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand. ([Revelation 7:5](#))**
- **Out of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand. Out of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand. Out of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand. ([Revelation 7:6](#))**
- **Out of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand. Out of the tribe of**

- Levi twelve thousand. Out of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand. (Revelation 7:7)**
- **Out of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand. Out of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand. Out of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand sealed. (Revelation 7:8)**
 - **After these things I saw, and, look! A great crowd, which no man was able to number, out of all nations and tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, dressed in white robes, and there were palm branches in their hands. (Revelation 7:9)**
 - **And they keep on crying with a loud voice, saying; Salvation we owe to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb. (Revelation 7:10)**
 - **And all the angels were standing around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell upon their faces before the throne and worshiped God. (Revelation 7:11)**
 - **Saying; Amen! The blessing and the glory and the wisdom and the thanksgiving and the honor and the power and the strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen. (Revelation 7:12)**
 - **And in response one of the elders said to me; These who are dressed in the white robes, who are they and where did they come from? (Revelation 7:13)**
 - **So right away I said to him; My lord, you are the one that knows. And he said to me; These are the ones that come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. (Revelation 7:14)**
 - **That is why they are before the throne of God, and they are rendering him sacred service day and night in his temple, and the One seated on the throne will spread his tent over them. (Revelation 7:15)**
 - **They will hunger no more nor thirst anymore, neither will the sun beat down upon them nor any scorching heat. (Revelation 7:16)**
 - **Because the Lamb, who is in the midst of the throne, will shepherd them, and will guide them to fountains of waters of life.**

And God will wipe out every tear from their eyes. (Revelation 7:17)

- **Here, a great crowd of indefinite number are shown as distinct from the 144,000 sealed ones.**
- **But you also hoped in him after you heard the word of truth, the Good News about your salvation. By means of him also, after you believed, you were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 1:13)**
- **Which is a token in advance of our inheritance, for the purpose of releasing by a ransom God's own possession, to his glorious praise. (Ephesians 1:14)**
- **For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, should be dissolved, we are to have a building from God, a house not made with hands, everlasting in the heavens. (2 Corinthians 5:1)**
- **That this great crowd enjoys a righteous standing before God is indicated by the fact that they are described as having washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**
- **So right away I said to him; My lord, you are the one that knows. And he said to me; These are the ones that come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. (Revelation 7:14)**
- **The great crowd, who survive the great tribulation, are not yet **declared righteous for life** that is, as worthy of the right to everlasting life on earth. They need to continue partaking of the fountains of waters of life, as guided by the Lamb, Christ Jesus. They will need to do this during the Millennial Reign of Christ.**
- **Because the Lamb, who is in the midst of the throne, will shepherd them, and will guide them to fountains of waters of life. And God will wipe out every tear from their eyes. (Revelation 7:17)**
- **And he showed me a river of water of life, clear as crystal, flowing out from the throne of God and of the Lamb (Revelation 22:1)**
- **Down the middle of its broad way. And on this side of the river**

and on that side there were trees of life producing twelve crops of fruit, yielding their fruits each month. And the leaves of the trees were for the curing of the nations. ([Revelation 22:2](#))

- If they prove loyal to Yehowah through a final test at the end of the thousand years, they will have their names permanently retained in God's book of life, Yehowah thus declaring, or acknowledging, that they finally are righteous in the complete sense.
- Now as soon as the thousand years have been ended, Satan will be let loose out of his prison. ([Revelation 20:7](#))
- And he will go out to mislead those nations in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war. The number of these is as the sand of the sea. ([Revelation 20:8](#))

See Also LIFE (Trees of Life)

· God Proved Righteous In All His Acts

- It can be seen that in his dealings with imperfect human's, God never violates his own standards of righteousness and justice. He does not **declare** sinful persons **righteous** on their own merit, thereby overlooking or condoning sin.
- O Yehowah, hear my prayer, do give ear to my entreaty. In your faithfulness answer me in your righteousness. ([Psalms 143:1](#))
- And do not enter into judgment with your servant, for before you no one alive can be righteous. ([Psalms 143:2](#))
- As the apostle Paul explains; All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and it is as a free gift that they are being **declared righteous by his undeserved kindness** through the release by the ransom paid by Christ Jesus.
- God set him forth as an offering for propitiation through faith in his blood. This was in order to exhibit his own righteousness, because he was forgiving the sins that occurred in the past while God was exercising forbearance, so as to exhibit his own righteousness in this present season, that he might be righteous even when **declaring righteous** the man that has faith in Jesus.
- For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. ([Romans](#)

3:23)

- And it is as a free gift that they are being **declared righteous** by his undeserved kindness through the release by the ransom paid by Christ Jesus. (**Romans 3:24**)
- God set him forth as an offering for propitiation through faith in his blood. This was in order to exhibit his own righteousness, because he was forgiving the sins that occurred in the past while God was exercising forbearance. (**Romans 3:25**)
- So as to exhibit his own righteousness in this present season, that he might be righteous even when **declaring righteous** the man that has faith in Jesus. (**Romans 3:26**)
- Thus God, through undeserved kindness, has provided a legal arrangement on the basis of Christ's sacrifice by which he can be completely just and righteous in forgiving the sins of those exercising faith.

•• **Attempts At Proving Oneself Righteous**

- Since **God alone can declare** a man **righteous**, attempts to prove oneself righteous on the basis of one's own merit or by acceptance of the judgment of others as to one's righteousness are of no value. Job was reproved because, though not charging God with any wrong, he was **declaring his own soul righteous** rather than God.
- So these three men ceased from answering Job, for he was **righteous in his own eyes**. (**Job 32:1**)
- But the anger of Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite of the family of Ram came to be hot. Against Job his anger blazed over his declaring his own soul **righteous rather than God**. (**Job 32:2**)
- The man versed in the Law who questioned Jesus about the way to everlasting life was indirectly reproved by Jesus for his attempt to prove himself righteous.
- Now, look! A certain man versed in the Law rose up, to test him out, and said; Teacher, by doing what shall I inherit everlasting life? (**Luke 10:25**)
- He said to him; What is written in the Law? How do you read?

(Luke 10:26)

- **In answer he said: You must love Yehowah your God with your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole strength and with your whole mind, and, your neighbor as yourself. (Luke 10:27)**
- **He said to him; You answered correctly. Keep on doing this and you will get life. (Luke 10:28)**
- **But, wanting to prove himself righteous, the man said to Jesus, Who really is my neighbor? (Luke 10:29)**
- **In reply Jesus said; A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among robbers, who both stripped him and inflicted blows, and went off, leaving him half-dead. (Luke 10:30)**
- **Now, by coincidence, a certain priest was going down over that road, but, when he saw him, he went by on the opposite side. (Luke 10:31)**
- **Likewise, a Levite also, when he got down to the place and saw him, went by on the opposite side. (Luke 10:32)**
- **But a certain Samaritan traveling the road came upon him and, at seeing him, he was moved with pity. (Luke 10:33)**
- **So he approached him and bound up his wounds, pouring oil and wine upon them. Then he mounted him upon his own beast and brought him to an inn and took care of him. (Luke 10:34)**
- **And the next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said; Take care of him, and whatever you spend besides this, I will repay you when I come back here. (Luke 10:35)**
- **Who of these three seems to you to have made himself neighbor to the man that fell among the robbers? (Luke 10:36)**
- **He said; The one that acted mercifully toward him. Jesus then said to him; Go your way and be doing the same yourself. (Luke 10:37)**

- Jesus condemned the Pharisees for seeking to **declare themselves righteous** before men.
- Consequently he said to them; You are those who **declare yourselves righteous before men**, but God knows your hearts, because what is lofty among men is a disgusting thing in God's sight. (**Luke 16:15**)
- The apostle Paul, in particular, showed that, because of the imperfect, sinful state of all mankind, none could be **declared righteous** through trying to establish **their own righteousness** by works of the Mosaic Law.
- Now we know that all the things the Law says it addresses to those under the Law, so that every mouth may be stopped and all the world may become liable to God for punishment. (**Romans 3:19**)
- Therefore by works of Law no flesh will be **declared righteous** before him, for by Law is the accurate knowledge of sin. (**Romans 3:20**)
- But now apart from Law God's righteousness has been made manifest, as it is borne witness to by the Law and the Prophets. (**Romans 3:21**)
- Yes, God's righteousness through the faith in Jesus Christ, for all those having faith. For there is no distinction. (**Romans 3:22**)
- For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (**Romans 3:23**)
- And it is as a free gift that they are being **declared righteous** by his undeserved kindness through the release by the ransom paid by Christ Jesus. (**Romans 3:24**)
- For all those who depend upon works of Law are under a curse, for it is written: Cursed is every one that does not continue in all the things written in the scroll of the Law in order to do them. (**Galatians 3:10**)
- Moreover, that by Law no one is **declared righteous** with God is evident, because the righteous one will live by reason of faith. (**Galatians 3:11**)

- Now the Law does not adhere to faith, but **he that does them shall live by means of them.** (**Galatians 3:12**)
- Instead, he stressed faith in Christ Jesus as the true basis for such **declaration of righteousness.**
- For, because of not knowing the righteousness of God but seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. (**Romans 10:3**)
- For Christ is the end of the Law, so that **everyone exercising faith may have righteousness.** (**Romans 10:4**)
- The inspired letter of James complements Paul's statement by showing that such faith must be made to live, not by works of Law, but by works of faith, as in the cases of Abraham and Rahab.
- You see that a man is to be **declared righteous** by works, and not by faith alone. (**James 2:24**)
- Indeed, as the body without spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead. (**James 2:26**)
- Certain men, falsely claiming to be apostles, unjustly challenged the apostleship and Christian works of Paul, seeking thereby to draw away the Corinthian congregation to themselves.
- Now what I am doing I will still do, that I may cut off the pretext from those who are wanting a pretext for being found equal to us in the office of which they boast. (**2 Corinthians 11:12**)
- For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. (**2 Corinthians 11:13**)
- Paul, knowing that he was faithfully carrying out a stewardship for Christ, stated that he was not concerned with the judgment of men who, wholly unauthorized, sat in effect as a human tribunal to judge him. He did not even rely on his own judgment of himself, but he **looked to Yehowah as his Examiner.**
- Let a man so appraise us as being subordinates of Christ and stewards of sacred secrets of God. (**1 Corinthians 4:1**)

- Besides, in this case, what is looked for in stewards is for a man to be found faithful. (**1 Corinthians 4:2**)
- Now to me it is a very trivial matter that I should be examined by you or by a human tribunal. Even I do not examine myself. (**1 Corinthians 4:3**)
- For I am not conscious of anything against myself. Yet by this I am not proved righteous, **but he that examines me is Yehowah.** (**1 Corinthians 4:4**)
- Thus the principle is set forth that reliance cannot be put in the judgment of men as to ones righteousness or lack of it, unless their judgment is backed up by God's Word. The person must look into God's Word and let it examine him.
- For the word of God is alive and exerts power and is sharper than any two-edged sword and pierces even to the dividing of soul and spirit, and of joints and their marrow, and is able to discern thoughts and intentions of the heart. (**Hebrews 4:12**)
- However, where the backing of God's Word is evident, a person being reproved by a Christian brother, especially by an elder in the congregation, would not properly turn aside such reproof by trying to **prove himself righteous.**
- A lover of discipline is a lover of knowledge, **but a hater of reproof is unreasoning.** (**Proverbs 12:1**)
- True, no discipline seems for the present to be joyous, but grievous, yet afterward to those who have been trained by it, it yields **peaceable fruit, namely, righteousness.** (**Hebrews 12:11**)
- Be obedient to those who are taking the lead among you and be submissive, for they are keeping watch over your souls as those who will render an account, that they may do this with joy and not with sighing, for this would be damaging to you. (**Hebrews 13:17**)
- And anyone in a position of responsibility who sits in judgment of a matter or a dispute would be condemned by God if he pronounced the wicked one **righteous** in consideration of a bribe.
- Those who are pronouncing the wicked one righteous in

consideration of a bribe, and who take away even the righteousness of the righteous one from him! (Isaiah 5:23)

- **If, now, you practice carrying out the kingly Law according to the scripture; You must love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing quite well. (James 2:8)**
- **But if you continue showing favoritism, you are working a sin, for you are reprovved by the Law as transgressors. (James 2:9)**