

# THE FATHER'S VIEW OF THE CROSS — ROMANS 3:24-31

## I The Cross Manifests God's Righteousness

3:24-26

<sup>24</sup>being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, <sup>26</sup>to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. (Ro.3:24-26)

- OBJECTION: God is accepting you as you are, which means, he has lowered his standard.
- God will always operate consistent with His nature (righteous, merciful, gracious, and loving).
- How could God just pass over the sin of all those generations and still be just?
- Because the price would be paid. No amount of love, grace, or mercy can put sin aside, and stop requiring its penalty.
- God cannot forgive the sinner unless His justice is satisfied. Christ paid the ransom purchase price for our forgiveness.
- God, out of love, chooses not to punish the sinner, but to punish his Son. Jesus Christ died the death that we deserved as our substitute.



## II The Cross Exalts God's Grace

3:27-28

<sup>27</sup>Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. (Ro.3:27-28)

- If this is all of God then what part do we have in it? The answer is basically NONE!
- The only contribution we make is to believe, and even the believing is a work of God's Spirit.
- The principle, Paul says, under which we operate in terms of salvation is a principle of faith in response to grace.



## III The Cross Reveals God's Consistency

3:29-30

<sup>29</sup>Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, <sup>30</sup>since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. (Ro.3:29-30)

- The Jews are going to say, look we are justified by the works of the law.
- Now, Paul you are preaching to all these Gentiles that they are justified by faith.
- Does God have two ways of salvation? Since God is one and over all men, He has only one way of salvation, and that is by faith.



## IV The Cross Confirms the Law

3:31

<sup>31</sup>Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law. (Ro.3:31)

- The Law had an important purpose. The Law's purpose was to show us sin.
- Putting Jesus Christ on the cross to pay the penalty for sin ought to show us how serious God is about His law.
- God's law then is established as holy, righteous, and good.

