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God Demonstrates His Righteousness

Romans 3:25-26

I. God Displays Propitiation By Christ's Blood (v. 25a)

A. The definition of _____
(Gal. 3:13; Eph. 2:3-5; Col. 2:13-14)

B. The explanation of propitiation and Christ's _____
(Lev. 17:11; Matt. 26:28; Jn. 10:11; Heb. 9:22)

C. The connection between propitiation and the _____
(Ex. 25:17-22; Lev. 16:11-16; Heb. 9:6-7, 11-12; Isa. 53:10-11)

II. God Discloses Forbearance in Passing Over Former Sins (v. 25b-26a)

A. God's righteousness was shown through divine forbearance in the _____ (v. 25b)
[Rom. 2:4; Isa 53:6]

B. God's righteousness is shown through divine atonement in the _____ (v. 26a)
[Lk. 22:20; Ezek. 36:26-27; Eph. 2:13-16]

III. God Demonstrates that He is Both Just and the Justifier (v. 26b)

A. God is _____
(Acts 10:34; Rom. 2:11; Matt. 22:39; Zech. 7:10; 2 Thes. 1:6; Rom. 12:19; Col. 3:25; Psa. 89:14; Mic. 6:8)

B. God is the _____
(Jn. 12:27-28; Rom. 5:1, 6-11; Heb. 11:6)

TAKE HOME

- How does understanding propitiation help you to be more _____ for Christ's sacrifice?
- How does the divine forbearance of God help you to be more _____ with injustices?
- How does learning about God being both just and the justifier help you both _____ God's Word and at the same time _____ someone to obey God's Word?

STUDY QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a small group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please visit our website at placeritachurch.com.

1. Read Romans 3:25. What is the definition of propitiation? (Gal. 3:13; Eph. 2:3-5; Col. 2:13-14) How is propitiation offered through Christ’s blood? What does this mean? (Lev. 17:11; Matt. 26:28; Jn. 10:11; Heb. 9:22)

2. What is the connection between propitiation and the mercy seat? How does this connection help you see the consistency of God’s plan of redemption all along? How does this enrich your understanding of this incredible doctrine? (Ex. 25:17-22; Lev. 16:11-16; Heb. 9:6-7, 11-12; Isa. 53:10-11)

3. How is it exactly that God showed divine forbearance in the past? How does this also demonstrate God’s righteousness? What do we mean when we say the OT believer was bought on credit? (Rom. 2:4; Isa 53:6)

4. Read Romans 2:26. How is God’s righteousness shown in the present? What aspects of the atonement help you appreciate how this doctrine both reconciles us to God and to each other? (Lk. 22:20; Ezek. 36:26-27; Eph. 2:13-16)

5. Why is it so important that we understand that God is just? What exactly does this mean? How could this doctrine be challenged? (Acts 10:34; Rom. 2:11; Matt. 22:39; Zech. 7:10; 2 Thes. 1:6; Rom. 12:19; Col. 3:25; Psa. 89:14; Mic. 6:8)

6. How is it that God is both just and the justifier? Why is this so important? How can both of these things be true at the same time? (Jn. 12:27-28; Rom. 5:1, 6-11; Heb. 11:6)

7. Read the take home questions. Which one challenges you or encourages you the most? Why? How will you live your life differently this week in light of what you have learned from this text?

“This is the righteous basis on which the righteous God can ‘righteous’ the unrighteous without compromising His righteousness.”

- John Stott, *The Message of Romans*