

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 92

Good News!
Christ is our Righteousness!



2016

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never personally believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior; you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sins of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. *(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave is One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*



LESSON

Good news! Christ is OUR righteousness! Yes He is!!!! It is a gift to us from God.

God's righteousness was the subject of our last lesson. It's wonderful to know that perfect God supplied our salvation at the cost of sacrificing His Son, Jesus Christ.

Remember sometimes doing the right thing is the hardest thing to do. It was really the hardest for God our Father to sacrifice His Son to save us but He wanted to do it because He loves us and He always will.

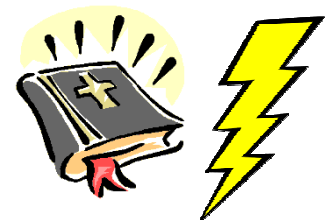
So the good news is that when we were saved and placed in Christ, we were given His righteousness. Christ is now our righteousness. *1 Cor 1:30-31 "And because of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, **righteousness** and sanctification and redemption, (31) so that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'"*

Because He is our righteousness, Jesus actually commands, encourages, and wants us to live righteously as well. He wants us to practice righteousness daily.

GOOD NEWS! Don't worry because God will train us in His righteousness!! *2 Tim 3:16-17 "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for **training in righteousness**; (17) so that the man of God may be acceptable, equipped for every good work."*

Let's get the right order here...before we can practice righteousness, we need to be **trained** in righteousness. We need to be trained, and we also need to have the power to do it.

Good news! God provides the training manual (the Bible), and He provides the power (the Holy Spirit). He gives us our coach. Our coach is God the Holy Spirit...also our helper...the One who is called to our side to comfort and encourage us...our POWER.





GOOD NEWS! The training is simple and directly from God the Holy Spirit. The Spirit trains us DAILY for righteousness as we study the Word of God. Then gradually as we learn, change takes place in us and new ways replace old ones. The mind of Christ, which is the Bible, teaches us, convinces us, corrects us, and TRAINS us in RIGHTEOUSNESS.



We are declared righteous or perfect by the Father at the moment we believe in Jesus Christ and we are placed in union with Christ who is our righteousness. Then we are told in the Word to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ and encouraged to practice righteousness. In other words, do what we learn in the Bible. Col_1:9-10 "And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, (10) And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God..."

What happens when we practice righteousness? Good news! The New Testament also talks about righteousness as a fruit, as a result in Eph 5:7-10. "Therefore do not become partners with them (unbelievers); (8) for at one time you were darkness (as an unbeliever), but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (9) [for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and righteous and true], (10) and try to recognize what is pleasing to the Lord."

Phil 1:9-11 "And it is my prayer that your love may overflow more and more, with knowledge and all judgment, (10) so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ (Rapture), (11) filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God."

Heb 12:11 "All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it gives the peaceful **fruit of righteousness.**"

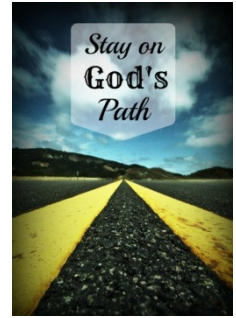


So righteousness is one of the most wonderful gifts from God! It's wonderful because we are placed in Jesus when we believe in Him, then we get His righteousness and Jesus comes to live in us along with the Holy Spirit!! This should make your day, right!!! You're perfect in God's eyes because of Jesus AND JESUS lives in you! So we can truly live each day happily because Jesus is in us and we have His righteousness. So what is the result of all this? It is that now we can produce fruit or service for the Lord.

GOOD NEWS! When we take a look at what God the Father has done for us at the moment we believe in Jesus, we find that what He has done is a wonderful blessing, a gift that provides us with a manner of living that pleases Him.

So we have been looking at righteousness...

GOOD NEWS! In His death on the cross Jesus dealt with all unrighteousness (our sins) for us. He dealt with all that separated us from God...our condemnation, our judgment and our spiritual death. He made the path clear for us to be perfect in God's eyes forever.



GOOD NEWS! Before we were saved, there was the fact that we were unrighteousness in Adam but NOW after we were saved, there is the fact of our righteousness in the risen Christ...a gift from God! WOW!!! God is a genius isn't He? We are so blessed.

And before we were saved we were aliens to God but now that we are saved there is a close relationship with God. Before we were saved, there was distance from God but now we are His family! Can't get any closer than that, right? *Rom 5:1-2 "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (2) through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God."*

Now that you're perfect in God's eyes because you have the righteousness of God, you can serve God and Jesus by living in the plan He has for you. How? By growing in His knowledge (the Bible), then you will be able to produce fruit or good works. One way to produce fruit is to share the GOOD NEWS about Jesus to others.

The GOOD NEWS! It is the truth of the gospel...the GOOD NEWS...the truth of righteousness by faith in Jesus. *Rom 1:16-17 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Gentile. (17) For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, 'BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.'"*

GOOD NEWS! Our righteousness in Christ affects our daily lives. Now we have fellowship with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. We have confidence by the power of the Holy Spirit and are guided by Him. And now we are asked by God to live with that in mind always and to act as His sons and daughters and members of His body in Christ that we are to spread the Good News about Jesus.

Also we are not to ignore the Holy Spirit of promise but we are asked to walk in the way that God has called us to walk by way of the Holy Spirit's guidance...pleasing God the Father. GOOD NEWS! When we do, God is glorified.

We are called to walk by the Spirit and live by the Spirit. We do this by learning His Word and living it. We have faith in God and His Word. Jesus Christ is to dwell in our hearts by faith. God loves it when we have faith in Him and His Word.

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