

Faith to Faith

Theme: Revealing God's righteousness through the gospel.

Romans 1:17

Introduction:

- A. **One of the more obscure yet profoundly fundamental statements in the Bible is found in Rom. 1:17.**
 - 1. The phrase "from faith to faith" has been interpreted in various ways.
 - 2. What is sure is that the gospel reveals God's righteousness.
 - 3. What is also sure is that man's righteousness only results because of the righteousness of God.
- B. **It is proposed that the gospel is the link between God's righteousness and man's.**
 - 1. We may never come to a consensus as to the meaning of the phrase ...
 - 2. But, knowing God's righteousness as revealed in Christ through the gospel is effectually powerful to all who believe!

Discussion:

- I. The Text
 - A. **From faith to faith: Possible Meanings**
 - 1. From one person's faith to another who believes.
 - 2. Faith is at the beginning of the salvation process, and it is the goal as well.
 - 3. From the faith of the OT to the faith of the NT.
 - 4. From the gospel's revelation (**Rom. 10:17**) to the manifestation of faith by those who believe in Christ Jesus.
 - B. **We may never know the exact meaning of this phrase, even in light of the surrounding text.**
 - C. **So, what benefit is there for us?**
 - 1. To magnify our awareness of God's righteousness as manifested through Jesus Christ.
 - 2. That our awareness would convict our hearts to glory in God's righteousness and place our confidence in Jesus as we live out our lives.
- II. Revealed Through Jesus
 - A. **God's righteousness.**
 - 1. God is holy (for so many reasons) but ultimately because He is without sin, whereas man is full of sin.
 - 2. Sinful man can do nothing within his own might to have fellowship with a holy (sinless) God.
 - 3. God's righteousness demands that man be made holy if fellowship is to exist between Him and man.
 - B. **Jesus is the manifestation of God's righteousness.**
 - 1. As man He was the visible expression of God. **Jn. 1:1, 14; Heb. 1:3**
 - 2. He taught man and lived according to God's righteousness. **Matt. 5:48; Heb. 4:14-15**
 - 3. Through Jesus, we can stand before our holy and righteous God. **Rom. 5:2**
 - C. **The gospel reveals God's righteousness.**
 - 1. All that we know about God comes from Him. **Heb. 1:1-3; Matt. 28:18-20**
 - 2. It is through this message we can know God's righteousness. **Rom. 3:21-26**
 - 3. It is through this message that its effective power convicts the hearts seeking His salvation. **Rom. 1:17**

Conclusion:

- A. While the phrase "from faith to faith" may still seem obscure, there is no denying when God's righteousness is revealed to believers it – through the gospel – has the power to transform lives.
- B. May God's righteousness bring salvation to come to have faith in Him through His Son Jesus Christ.