

The Righteousness of God

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introduction

Righteousness is right standing or right relationship with God.

Righteousness isn't always a felt need, but it is a great need, e.g. Islam.

Rom 1:16-17

¹⁶For 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 Greek.¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

Rom 1:18-19

- ¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.
- The unrighteous suppress the truth about God.

Matt 5:20

- ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.
- Righteousness 'that exceeds'

Luke 18:9-14

- ⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt:¹⁰ "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

Luke 18:9-14

¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.'¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Is 64:6

⁶ We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.

Rom 3:19-20

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

Matt 6:33

³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2 Cor 5:21

²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

conclusion

There are only three kinds of righteousness:

1. Un-righteousness
2. Self-righteousness
3. God-righteousness

Which one do you have?