Christ Is the End of the Law Unto Righteousness

Pg 1

"What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, who followed not after righteousness, <u>have attained to</u> <u>righteousness, even the righteousness</u> which is of faith. But Israel, which followed after <u>the Law</u> of righteousness, has not attained to the Law of righteousness. For what reason? Because they sought it <u>not by faith</u>, but as it were <u>by the works</u> of the Law. For they stumbled at that stumbling-stone; as it is written, '*Behold, I lay in Zion a <u>Stumbling-stone</u> and <u>Rock of Offense</u>; and whoever believes on Him (Jesus) shall not be ashamed.' (Isaiah 28:16) Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, <u>that they might be saved</u>. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, <u>but not according to knowledge</u>. For they, <u>being ignorant of God's righteousness</u>, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves <u>unto the righteousness of God</u>. For Christ is the end of the Law unto righteousness to everyone who believes." (Rom. 9:30-10:4)*

Christ: from the Greek word <u>Christos</u> which means: <u>Christ</u>, Messiah; the 'Anointed-One' who is the Son of the Living God; sent to be the Savior of the world: including Israel and all nations, tribes, and peoples. Jesus is the Christ-Messiah who has fulfilled the prophetic word that He would deliver and redeem people from sin and impart to believers the 'righteousness' that comes through faith (belief) in Jesus as our Lord and Savior. For Jesus the title 'Christ' ('Messiah') is central to who He is, and what His calling and purpose is: to be the Savior of the world!

the End: from the Greek word <u>**telos**</u> which means: the <u>end</u>; the <u>goal</u>, the <u>completion of a</u> <u>process</u>, the <u>fulfillment</u>; properly: the <u>consummation</u> that brings something <u>to closure</u>; and which is sometimes superseded by something better. In context: the coming of Jesus as the Christ who would <u>save</u> and <u>redeem</u> people from their sin, through His sacrificial death on the Cross for sin, <u>supersedes</u> the Mosaic 'Law' and its process of forgiveness of sin through animal sacrifice, as it says:

"And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, "Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a soul shall sin <u>through ignorance</u> **against any** of the commandments of the LORD concerning things <u>which ought not to be done</u>, ... then let him bring for his sin, which he has sinned, a young bull without blemish unto the LORD for a sin offering. And he shall bring the bullock unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD; and shall lay his hand upon the bull's head, and kill the bull before the LORD. ... so shall he do with it; and the priest shall make an atonement for them, and it shall be **forgiven** them." (Leviticus 4:1-4, ..., 20)

the Law: from the Greek word <u>**nomou**</u> which means: the <u>Law</u>; the <u>Mosaic Law</u>; referring to the, commandments, statutes, laws, moral teachings, worship, sin offerings, instructions, etc. given by God: especially the first five books of the Bible. Perfect submission to the Mosaic Law was necessary to maintain a righteous relationship with God. Failure to do so perfectly (sinfulness) required a 'sin offering' to restore someone to a righteous relationship with God. Jesus came to fulfill and supersede the Mosaic Law with a better Law: "the Law of the Spirit of <u>**life** in Christ Jesus</u>" (Romans 8:2) founded upon the righteousness of faith in Christ Jesus.

Unto Righteousness: from the Greek words <u>*eis dikaiosynen*</u> which mean: <u>unto</u> <u>righteousness</u>, or justice; the righteousness of which God is the source, but practically: a divine righteousness; the personal attribute of being right and just before God because of our faith and trust in God, in His word, in His promises, and in His Son Christ Jesus; and also the upright behavior of believers in Jesus; just as it was said of Abraham: "<u>He believed God</u>, and it was reckoned unto him <u>as righteousness</u>." (<u>Genesis 15:6</u>; quoted in Romans 4:3; Galatians 3:6; James 2:23)

Everyone: from the Greek word *panti* which means: <u>everyone</u>, <u>all</u>, everything. In Context: refers specifically to believers: <u>all</u> those people who have been restored to the Father's standard of righteousness that comes only through Christ Jesus, and His redemptive sacrifice of Himself on the Cross for the forgiveness of sin. it is as Jesus said, "*I am the way, the truth, and the life;* <u>no one</u> comes unto the Father, <u>but through Me</u>." (John 14:6)

Christ Is the End of the Law Unto Righteousness

Pg 2

Believes: from the Greek word *pisteuonti* which means: <u>believing</u>, or believes; from *pisteuo* meaning: <u>to believe</u>, <u>to have faith</u>, to trust; to have a firm confidence - in something or someone. In context: Involves a sincere and personal faith, trust, and commitment to the Father, His Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. It is as it says, "Faith is the substance (assurance, confidence) of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1)

Paul continues as follows:

"For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the Law, that '*The man who does those things shall live by them.*' (*Leviticus 18:5*) But the righteousness which **is of faith** speaks as follows, 'Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into Heaven?' (*Deut. 30:12*) (that is, to bring Christ down from above). Or, 'Who shall go over the sea?' (*Deut. 30:13*) (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.) But what does it say? '*The word is near you*, even in your mouth, **and in your heart:**' (*Deut. 30:14*) that is, **the word of faith**, which we preach: that if you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. For **with the heart man <u>believes unto righteousness</u>**; and with the mouth confession is made <u>unto salvation</u>. For the scripture says, 'Whosoever believes on *Him shall not be ashamed.*' (*Isaiah 28:16*) For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek; for the **same Lord** over **all** is rich unto **all** who call upon Him. For whoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord <u>shall be saved</u>." (Romans 10:5-13)

The 'Good-News' is that believers are now saved by Grace through faith in Christ Jesus; and not through works of the Law, lest any man should boast. Please consider the following:

But God, who is rich in mercy, for **His great love** with which <u>He loved us</u>, even when we were dead in sins, has <u>made us alive together with Christ</u>! By Grace you are saved! And has raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus; so that in the ages to come **He** might show the exceeding riches of <u>His Grace</u> in <u>His kindness</u> towards us **through Christ Jesus**. For <u>by Grace are you saved **through faith**</u>; and that not of yourselves; <u>it is the gift of God</u>; and <u>not of works</u>, lest any man should boast. For <u>we are **His** workmanship</u>, **created in Christ Jesus** unto good works, which God has beforehand ordained that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:4-10)

This wonderful truth: that by Grace we are saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, and not by works of the Law, is a major theme within Pauls inspired writings:

"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law, but through **the faith of Jesus Christ**, even we who <u>have believed</u> in Jesus Christ, so that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the Law; for by the works of the Law no flesh (no people) shall be justified. For I through the Law am dead to the Law, so that I might <u>live unto God</u>. <u>I am</u> <u>crucified with Christ</u>; nevertheless I live; yet not I, <u>but Christ lives in me</u>; and the life which I now live in the flesh <u>I live in the faith of the Son of God</u>, who<u>loved me</u>, and <u>gave Himself (up)</u> for me. I do not frustrate the grace of God; for if righteousness come through the Law, then Christ has died in vain." (<u>Galatians 2:16-21</u>)

"But the scripture has shut-together everyone under sin, so that the promise **by faith** of Jesus Christ might be given to those **who believe**. But before faith came, we were kept under the Law, shut-up unto the faith <u>which should afterwards be revealed</u>. Therefore the Law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, so that <u>we might be justified **by faith**</u>. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For you are <u>all the children of God through **faith** <u>in Christ Jesus</u>. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ <u>have put on Christ</u>. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female; for <u>you are all one in Christ Jesus</u>. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's descendants, and heirs according to <u>the promise</u>!" (<u>Galatians 3:22-29</u>)</u>

Christ Is the End of the Law Unto Righteousness

Pg 3

And again:

"Therefore by the deeds of the Law there shall no flesh (no people) be justified in **His** sight; for through the Law is the knowledge of sin. But now **the righteousness of God** apart from the law is manifested, being witnessed under the Law and the prophets; even <u>the **righteousness of**</u> **God** which is **through faith of Jesus Christ** unto **all** and upon **all those who believe**; for there is no difference: for **all have sinned**, and come short of the Glory of God; being (now) justified freely by **His grace** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; whom God has set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; to declare, I say, at this time **His righteousness**; so that He might <u>be just</u>, and the justifier of him <u>who believes in Jesus</u>. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what Law? Of works? No! But through **the law of faith**. Therefore we conclude that a man **is justified by faith** apart from the deeds of the Law." (<u>Romans 3:20-28</u>)

Not only are believers saved by grace; but we no longer live under condemnation because of our sins; instead we are now new creations in Christ Jesus; we abide in the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus. We are made into the righteousness of God in Christ!! Please consider the following:

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those <u>who are **in Christ Jesus**</u>, who walk not after the flesh, <u>but after the Spirit</u>. For <u>the Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me</u> free from the Law of sin and death. For what the Law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending <u>His own Son (Jesus)</u> in <u>the likeness</u> of sinful flesh, <u>and for sin</u>, <u>condemned (our) sin in the flesh (through His death on the Cross)</u>; so that <u>the righteousness of the</u> <u>Law might be fulfilled in us</u>, who walk not after the flesh, <u>but <u>after the Spirit</u></u>. For those who are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but those who are <u>after the Spirit</u>. For those who are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but those who are <u>after the Spirit</u> the things of the <u>Spirit</u>. For to be carnally minded is death; but <u>to be spiritually minded is life and peace</u>. Because the carnal mind is at enmity against God; for it is not subject to the Law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh, <u>but in</u> <u>the Spirit</u>, if so be that the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if any man does have <u>the Spirit of</u> <u>Christ</u>, he is not of Him. But <u>if Christ is in you</u>, the body is dead because of sin; but <u>the Spirit is</u> <u>Life because of righteousness</u>." (<u>Romans 8:1-10</u>)

"Therefore **if any man <u>be in Christ</u>, <u>he is a new creation</u>; old things are passed away; behold, all things have become new. And all things are of God, who has <u>reconciled us</u> to <u>Himself</u> through Jesus Christ, and has given to us the ministry of reconciliation; namely, that <u>God was</u> in <u>Christ</u>, reconciling the world unto <u>Himself</u>, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and has committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you through us; we pray you in Christ's behalf, be you reconciled to God. For He has made Him (Jesus) to be sin for us, who knew no sin; so that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him!! " (2 Corinthians 5:17-21)**

Jesus Christ Is the End of the Law Unto Righteousness

When Jesus said "It Is Finished" while still nailed to the Cross the "End" of the Law unto righteousness came to an End !! Now! For <u>us, we</u> are made the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus <u>our</u> Lord !!!

Thank you Jesus for having <u>the faith</u> to endure Your suffering and death on the Cross for the forgiveness of <u>our</u> sinfulness, and <u>our</u> Salvation !!

> Thank you Father for raising up Your Son Jesus from the dead because of <u>our</u> Justification !!

All Praise, Glory, Honor, and Dominion be Yours – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit !!! Forever & Ever!! Amen! & Amen!