

Romans 3:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

Analysis

Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference. Paul specifies: *dikaiosynē de theou dia pisteōs Iēsou Christou* (δικαιοσύνη δὲ θεοῦ διὰ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, "righteousness of God through faith of/in Jesus Christ"). The genitive *pisteōs Iēsou Christou* is debated—Christ's faithfulness (objective genitive) or faith in Christ (subjective genitive). Likely both: righteousness grounded in Christ's faithful obedience, received through faith in Him.

Eis pantas kai epi pantas tous pisteuontas (εἰς πάντας καὶ ἐπὶ πάντας τοὺς πιστεύοντας, "unto all and upon all who believe")—universal availability and actual possession for believers. Why? *Ou gar estin diastolē* (οὐ γάρ ἔστιν διαστολή, "for there is no distinction"). Jew-Gentile distinctions are abolished; all are saved the same way—by faith alone.

Historical Context

This demolition of Jewish-Gentile distinction revolutionized early Christianity. Whereas Judaism offered Gentiles only proselyte status through circumcision and Torah, Paul declares equal standing by faith alone. This was the Galatian controversy and Jerusalem Council issue (Acts 15). The gospel creates one new humanity in Christ (Ephesians 2:15).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does "no distinction" challenge ethnic, economic, or religious pride in your heart?
2. What is the relationship between Christ's faithfulness and your faith in receiving righteousness?
3. How should the universal availability of the gospel (unto all) shape your evangelism and prayer?

Interlinear Text

δικαιοσύνη	δὲ	θεοῦ	διὰ	πίστεως	Ἰησοῦ	Χριστοῦ
the righteousness	Even	of God	which is by	faith	of Jesus	Christ
G1343	G1161	G2316	G1223	G4102	G2424	G5547
εἰς πάντας καὶ ἐπὶ πάντας τοὺς πιστεύοντας οὐ γάρ						
unto all and upon all	unto all	and upon	all	them that believe	no	for
G1519	G3956	G2532	G1909	G3956	G4100	G3756 G1063
ἐστιν διαστολή						
there is difference						
G2076	G1293					

Additional Cross-References

Romans 10:12 (Parallel theme): For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.

Galatians 3:28 (References Jesus): There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 2:16 (Faith): Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, 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 shall no flesh be justified.

Romans 8:1 (References Jesus): There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Colossians 3:11 (References Christ): Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

Philippians 3:9 (Faith): And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

Romans 2:1 (Parallel theme): Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.

Isaiah 61:10 (Righteousness): I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

Acts 15:9 (Faith): And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

James 2:23 (Faith): And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.