

“Our Righteous God!”

Romans 2:5-11

East Berlin Community Church

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Introductions

- Murphy’s Laws
- You and I were created by a righteous God to live in an righteous environment in which everything would be right. That is why we struggle with injustices in our world
- None of us are right 100% of the time, but God is!

Our Righteous God!

A. General Statements

- Ezra 9:15-- *“O LORD God of Israel, You are righteous, for we are left as a remnant, as it is this day...”*
 - Psalm 11:2-- *“For the LORD is righteous. He loves righteousness; His countenance beholds the upright.”*
1. Righteousness comes from the root which means “smooth, straight, or right”
 2. Righteousness is closely associated with holiness and with truth.

B. Specifics: How is God “always right”?

1. God is always right in what He says, especially when it comes to what is morals!

- Psalm 33:4-- *“For the word of the LORD is right, and all His works are done in truth.”*
- Psalm 119:137-138-- *“Righteous are You, O LORD, and upright are Your judgments. Your testimonies, which You have commanded, are righteous and faithful.”*
- Psalm 119:144-- *“The righteousness of Your testimonies is everlasting; Give me understanding and I shall live.”*
- Psalm 119:75-- *“I know, O LORD, that Your judgments are right, and in Your faithfulness You have afflicted me.”*
- Psalm 19:8-- *“The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.”*

a. God’s laws are always “right on” target.

- Bill Hybels, -- *“Furthermore, every single law that God has spoken into existence is a righteous law. God isn’t swayed by the color of our skin, the size of our office, or the amount of our tithe check. His laws are equal opportunity and apply across the board. There is no discrimination and no affirmative action either-- just all around, perfect righteousness. Every law protects us from harming ourselves, from harming others, or from squandering our lives and eternities. Each one emanates from an inherently righteous core and applies the same standard regardless of our gender, our age, our religious affiliation, or our heritage.”* {The God You are Looking For}

b. God’s laws are for our protection and welfare.

c. Mankind think they know better than God as to what is right or wrong—Proverbs 14:12

- Proverbs 14:12-- *“There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.”*

2. God is always right in the administration of justice.

a. God as the righteous Judge!

- Genesis 18:25-- *"Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous shall be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is right?"*
- Deuteronomy 32:4-- *"He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, a God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He."*
- Psalm 7:9-12-- *"Oh, let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end, but establish the just; For the righteous God tests the hearts and minds. My defense is of God, who saves the upright in heart. God is a just Judge, and God is angry with the wicked every day. If he does not turn back, He will sharpen His sword; He bends His bow and makes it ready."*

b. God has appointed both the day of judgment and the Judge.

- Acts 17:31-- *"He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this by raising Him from the dead."*
- 1) The "day" of judgment will be at the end of time at the final resurrection.
 - John 5:25-29-- *"Most assuredly I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the grave will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of condemnation."*
 - 2) Jesus Christ will be the Righteous Judge.
 - John 5:30-- *"I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous because I do not seek my own will but the will of the Father who sent me."*

c. "How will Jesus Christ, the righteous Judge, judge fairly?" -- Romans 2:5-11

- Romans 2:5-11-- *"But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who will render to each according to his deeds: eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; but to those who are self-seeking, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God."*
- 1) He will judge us **individually**, each accountable for his own actions.
 - Psalm 62:12-- *"Also to You, O Lord, belongs mercy; For you render to each one according to his works".*
 - Job 34:11-- *"He repays a man for what he has done; He brings upon him what his conduct deserves."*
 - Jeremiah 17:10-- *"I, the Lord, search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve."*
 - Matthew 16:27-- *"For the son of man is going to come in His father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done."*
 - Revelation 20:12-13-- *"And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and the books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done."*
 - 2 Corinthians 5:10-- *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."*

- a) How will Jesus use our works to judge us?
- 1) Not the “weight” of our works as in a cosmic scale.
 - 2) Our works are external evidence of internal pursuits.
 - Romans 2:7-- *“eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality, but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath.”*
- (a) Two Pursuits
- (1) Those pursuing God evidence good works.
 - Ephesians 2:8-9-- *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”*
 - Ephesians 2:10-- *“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”*
 - (2) Those pursuing self-interests evidence their depravity.
 - Romans 2:5-- *“In accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart, you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God.”*
- (b) Jesus’ teaching
- (1) What’s on the inside comes out.
 - Matthew 15:17-20-- *“Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated. But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things that defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man.”*
 - (2) The proof of the root is in the fruit!
 - Matthew 7:16-20-- *“You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit and a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them.”*
- 2) He will judge us **impartially**. No respecters of persons
- Job 34:18-19-- *“Is he not the one who says to kings, ‘You are worthless’ and to ‘nobles, ‘You are wicked’, who shows no partiality to princes and does not favor the rich over the poor, for they are all works of his hands?”*
 - Colossians 3:25-- *“But he who had done wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.”*
 - 1 Peter 1:17-- *“And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear.”*
- 3) He will judge us **thoroughly**, that is, with all the evidence.
- Romans 2:16-- *“In the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.”*
 - 1 Corinthians 4:5-- *“Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one’s praise will come from God.”*

3. **God is always right in what He does and the methods and means by what He does what He does.**
- Psalm 145:17-- *"The LORD is righteous in all His ways, gracious in all His works"*
 - Daniel 9:14-- *"Therefore the LORD has kept the disaster in mind and brought it upon us; for the LORD our God is righteous in all the works which He does, though we have not obeyed His voice."*
- a. God uses perfect means to accomplish perfect "ends".
- b. Sometimes it is hard to see or accept that what God is doing is right.
- Ecclesiastes 7:15-- *"just man who perishes in his righteousness, and there is the wicked man who prolongs his life in his wickedness."*
 - Ecclesiastes 8:14-- *"there are just men to whom it happens according to the work of the wicked; again, there are wicked men to whom it happens according to the work of the righteous"*
- c. ***"God's ways are not our ways; His thoughts are not our thoughts"***
- d. God can take the "good, the bad, the ugly" and combine them together in such a way that His "good" is realized by us.
- Romans 8:28-- *"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."*
- e. Bottom line: **We can trust God for He is always right!**