

Righteousness, Self-Control & The Judgment To Come

(Acts 24:25)

(All Scriptures NASB1995 unless otherwise noted)

Righteousness, Self-Control & The Judgment To Come

"But as he was discussing righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix became frightened and said, 'Go away for the present, and when I find time I will summon you.'" **(Acts 24:25)**

What did Paul discuss with Felix about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come?

Righteousness

Definition:

"The character or quality of being right or just."
(W.E. Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words)

"It is used to denote an attribute of God, the context of which shows that 'the righteousness of God' means essentially the same as His faithfulness, or truthfulness, that which is consistent with His own nature and promises."
(W.E. Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words)

Righteousness

"Then he believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness."

(Genesis 15:6)

(cited in Romans 4:3, 22, Galatians 3:6, James 2:23)

"By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going."

(Hebrews 11:8)

"It will be righteousness for us if we are careful to observe all this commandment before the Lord our God, just as He commanded us." **(Deuteronomy 6:25)**

Righteousness

"For the Lord is righteous, He loves righteousness; The upright will behold His face."
(Psalm 11:7)

"He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake."
(Psalm 23:3)

"Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Lovingkindness and truth go before You." **(Psalm 89:14)**

"Let my tongue sing of Your word, for all Your commandments are righteousness."
(Psalm 119:172)

Righteousness

What did Paul teach concerning righteousness?

"Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation. For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes." **(Romans 10:1-4)**

"... that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation." **(Romans 10:9-10)**

Righteousness

What did Paul teach concerning righteousness?

"Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace. What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? May it never be! Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness."

(Romans 6:12-18)

Righteousness

What did Paul teach concerning righteousness?

"For 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. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, 'But the righteous man shall live by faith.'" **(Romans 1:16-17)**

"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds." **(Titus 2:11-14)**

Self-Control

Definition: "restraint exercised over one's own impulses, emotions, or desires."

(Merriam Webster Dictionary)

What did Jesus teach regarding self-control?

"Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.'"

(Matthew 16:24)

(cf. Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23)

Self-Control

What did Paul teach concerning self-control?

*"Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win. Everyone who competes in the games exercises **self-control** in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified."* **(1 Corinthians 9:24-27)**

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, **self-control**; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."* **(Galatians 5:22-24)**

Self-Control

What did Paul teach concerning self-control?

"... if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth." **(Ephesians 4:21-24)**

"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others." **(Philippians 2:3-4)**

Self-Control

Self-Control is one of 7 characteristics that Christians are commanded to add or supply to our faith:

*"Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, **self-control**, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love."* **(2 Peter 1:5-7)**

The Judgment To Come

What did Paul teach concerning the judgment to come?

*"But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of **the righteous judgment of God**, who will render to each person according to his deeds: to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation."* **(Romans 2:5-8)**

*"But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before **the judgment seat of God**. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God."* **(Romans 14:10-12)**

The Judgment To Come

What did Paul teach concerning the judgment to come?

*"For we must all appear before **the judgment seat of Christ**, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."* **(2 Corinthians 5:10)**

*"For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution **to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus**. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed—for our testimony to you was believed."* **(2 Thessalonians 1:6-10)**

The Judgment To Come

What did Paul teach concerning the judgment to come?

"Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead." **(Acts 17:30-31)**

"I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom ..." **(2 Timothy 4:1)**

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing." **(2 Timothy 4:7-8)**

The Judgment To Come

What did Jesus teach concerning the judgment to come?

*"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.'" **(Matthew 7:21-23)***

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." **(John 3:16-18 NKJV)**

The Judgment To Come

What did Jesus teach concerning the judgment to come?

"But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned." **(Matthew 12:36-37)**

"So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear." **(Matthew 13:40-43)**

The Judgment To Come

What did Jesus teach concerning the judgment to come?

"For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and will then repay every man according to his deeds." **(Matthew 16:27)**

"If anyone hears My sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day." **(John 12:47-48)**

"Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment." **(John 5:28-29)**

Righteousness, Self-Control & The Judgment To Come

SUMMARY:

Righteousness = What we should do, think or say.

"Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother." (1 John 3:7-10)

Righteousness, Self-Control & The Judgment To Come

SUMMARY:

Self-Control = Avoiding what we shouldn't do, think or say.

*"For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that **you may not do the things that you please.**" (Galatians 5:17)*

Righteousness, Self-Control & The Judgment To Come

SUMMARY:

Judgment To Come = The reason: We are accountable!

"The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil." (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 ESV)

God's Plan of Salvation

HEAR THE WORD

"Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves." (James 1:21-22)

BELIEVE IN JESUS

"And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him." (Hebrews 11:6)

God's Plan of Salvation

REPENT OF SINS

"Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord ..." (Acts 3:19)

CONFESS HIS NAME

"Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 10:32)

God's Plan of Salvation

BE BAPTIZED FOR FORGIVENESS

"Peter said to them, 'Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" (Acts 2:38)

REMAIN FAITHFUL & OBEDIENT

"And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation ..." (Hebrews 5:9)