

**Our Heavenly  
Position in Christ's  
Righteousness is to  
be Lived Out Here on  
Earth**

*Scripture  
Reading:*

**James 2:14 – 23**

# REVIEW

God is the standard of what is right (correct) in all opinion and activity

Fallen man's righteous efforts are faulty and inadequate – Isa 64:6

God has provided His righteousness to be placed on our account by means of faith in the Gospel of Christ – NOT by our personal efforts

The result is that believers possess the imputed righteousness of God

Now, the purpose of each believer is to put our positional righteousness into practice

# THE PRACTICE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS ILLUSTRATED

## James 2:20-23

- ◆ 21 “...Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?
- ◆ 22 Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?
- ◆ 23 And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, ‘Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.’”

# THE PRACTICE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS INSTRUCTED

## II Timothy 3:16

- ◆ **Frame our thinking with our new identity:**
  - ◆ YOU IN CHRIST – Jn 14:20
  - ◆ CHRIST IN YOU – Col 3:2
  
- ◆ **ABIDE (feel at ease, at home) in Christ**
  - ◆ Jn 15:4
  
- ◆ **Obey the NEW commandment, “love one another...”**
  - ◆ Jn 13:34-35

# THE PRACTICE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS INSTRUCTED

## (continued)

### ◆ Use God's provided defenses against our 3 enemies

- ◆ The World - Titus 2: 12 - "...denying (say 'no' to) worldly lusts"
- ◆ The Flesh – Rom 6:11
- ◆ The Devil - Eph 6:11- 13

### ◆ Doing all things with reference to God's opinion

- ◆ I Cor 10:31



# OUR PRACTICE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS MAINTAINED BY GOD

## ◆ Heb 12: 6, 11

- ◆ “For whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives ...
- ◆ ...Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.”

# OUR PRACTICE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS MOTIVATED

## ◇ I Tim 4:8

◇ By loving (agape) His appearing

◇ By receiving the crown of righteousness

◇ which we will cast at Christ's feet – Rev 4:10-11

# GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS DISPLAYED AT OUR GLORIFICATION

## ◆ Rev 19:8

- ◆ “And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints”

## ◆ Eph 5:26-27

- ◆ 26 “That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
- ◆ 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish”



God's imputed righteousness to the NT grace-believer is designed to be displayed in all we do

Our motivation to practice the righteousness of our position in Christ is not to earn God's favor, as do all man-made religions.

Our motivation to practice righteousness should come only from our appreciation for God's abundant grace, which He freely showers upon us!

**We are SAVED by God's grace!**

**Let us LIVE by God's grace!**

**CONCLUSION**