



# God is Righteous, Even When We Are Not

Brooksville Church of Christ

# “Righteous”

- **God’s righteousness is His faithfulness to His word.**
- “O sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done wonderful things, His right hand and His holy arm have gained the victory for Him. The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered His lovingkindness and His faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.” (Psa 98:1-3)

# “Righteous”

- God is reliable, dependable; God does what He says, He keeps His promises, He accomplishes His plans.
- How?
  - Because He knows the end from the beginning.
  - Because He has the power to do what He intends.
  - Providentially using people as His agents and instruments.

# “Righteous”

- **It can also mean that God shows mercy, goodness, kindness.**
- “Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; Yes, our God is compassionate.” (Psa 116:5)
- “O Lord God of Israel, You are righteous, for we have been left an escaped remnant, as it is this day; behold, we are before You in our guilt, for no one can stand before You because of this.” (Ezra 9:15)
- Isa 45:21.

# “Righteous”

- **But it also means that God does what is right, He does what is good, fitting, proper, and just.**
- Job 8:3 “Does God pervert justice? Or does the Almighty pervert what is right?”
- Rom 2:5; 2 Thes 1:5; Rev 16:7 -- “righteous judgment”

“Righteous”

- “Thus He has confirmed His words which He had spoken against us and against our rulers who ruled us, to bring on us great calamity; ... As it is written in the law of Moses, all this calamity has come on us; yet we have not sought the favor of the Lord our God by turning from our iniquity and giving attention to Your truth. Therefore the Lord has kept the calamity in store and brought it on us; for the Lord our God is righteous with respect to all His deeds which He has done, but we have not obeyed His voice.” (Dan 9.12-14)

# A Theme in Genesis ... and Beyond

- God's promises to Abraham:
  - Bless him (i.e., give him life)
  - Give his descendants the land of Canaan
  - Make a great nation from him
  - Kings would come from him
  - Abraham's name would be great
  - Abraham himself would be a blessing
  - Blessing for those who favor Abraham, curses for those who do not
  - Blessing for the Gentiles through him
  - God would be the God of Abraham's offspring



# The story of Genesis

- Abraham lies
- Isaac lies
- Jacob is a deceiver, takes what is not his
- Jacob's sons kill the men of Shechem
- Judah gets Tamar pregnant, thinking she is a prostitute
- Joseph's brothers plan to kill him, they deceive their father
- The Israelites leave Canaan to live in Egypt



# The Exodus

- Israel complained about Moses (repeatedly)
- Israel did not trust in God (repeatedly)
- Israel grumbled and wanted to return to Egypt (repeatedly)
- Israel built an idol (at Mt. Sinai!)
- Israel worshipped the bronze serpent
- Israel did not believe God would be with them to conquer Canaan
- Korah rebelled against Moses and Aaron
- Israel sinned at Baal-peor

# The Testimony

- Joshua 21:45 “Not one of the good promises which the Lord had made to the house of Israel failed; all came to pass.” (and 23:14f)
- 1 Kings 8:56 ““Blessed be the Lord, who has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised; not one word has failed of all His good promise, which He promised through Moses His servant.”

# The Testimony

- Romans 1:16-17 “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 9:6 “But it is not as though the word of God has failed.”

# The Testimony

- Romans 15:8 “For I say that Christ has become a servant to the circumcision on behalf of the truth of God to confirm the promises given to the fathers.”
- 2 Corinthians 1:20 “For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.”



What does  
this mean?

- It does not mean that God will save us even if we disobey, lose faith, etc.



# It means ...

- **God will not fail to do what He has said – we can count on His promises.**
- “In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.” (Heb 6:17-18)
- Our faith must be in God, not in people.

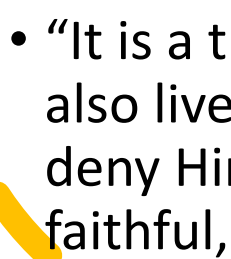


It means ...

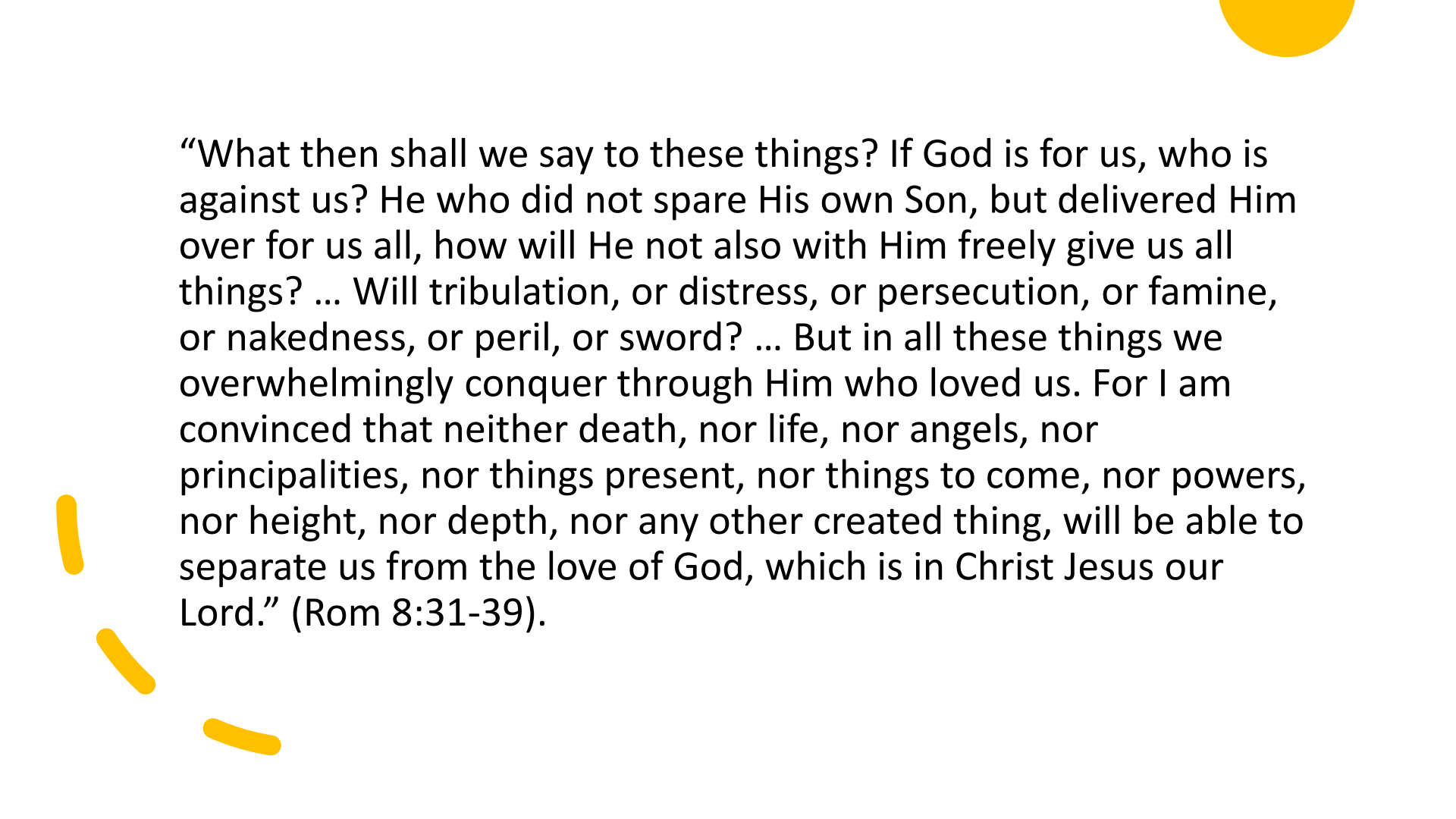
- **He will always act rightly and do what is right – He will never treat us unfairly or wrongly.**
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It means ...

- **God's plans are not thwarted by the disobedience of people – God will save the righteous, whether I am one of them or not.**
  - “What then? If some did not believe, their unbelief will not nullify the faithfulness of God, will it? May it never be!” (Rom 3:3f)
  - “So then it does not depend on the man who wills or the man who runs, but on God who has mercy.” (Rom 9:16)
  - “It is a trustworthy statement: For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.” (2 Tim 2:11-13)
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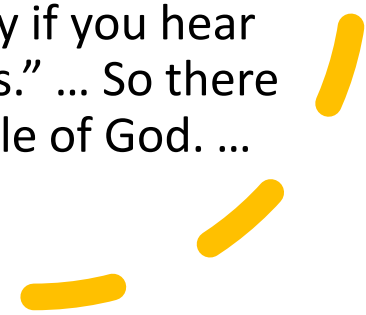





“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? ... Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ... But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Rom 8:31-39).

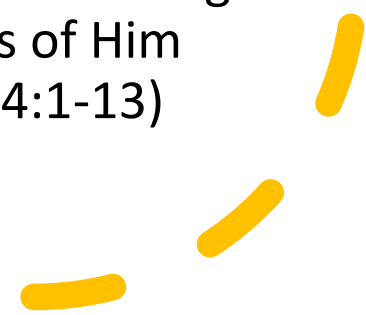


“Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it. For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard. For we who have believed enter that rest  
...Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience, He again fixes a certain day, ...“Today if you hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.” ... So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. ...





Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.” (Heb 4:1-13)





# 1 Corinthians 1:7-9

- “... awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will also confirm you to the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”