

ETHAN TEMPLE MINISTRIES
TOOLS FOR LIFE
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RIGHTEOUSNESS BY FAITH

Righteousness by faith is simply looking to Jesus to manifest His righteous life of victory in our life. God wants us to look to Christ for victory, not to ourselves.

“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Heb. 12: 1, 2).

This is true righteousness by faith and is God’s will for every Christian. Oswald Chambers, a well-known Christian author, clearly presented this wonderful truth in the July 23 reading of his daily devotional, *My Utmost for His Highest*:

“But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us... sanctification” (1 Cor. 1:30, NKJV).

“The Life Side: The mystery of sanctification is that the perfect qualities of Jesus Christ are imparted as a gift to me, not gradually, but instantly once I enter by faith into the realization that He ‘became for [me]... sanctification’ Sanctification means nothing less than the holiness of Jesus becoming mine and being exhibited in my life.

“The most wonderful secret of living a holy life does not lie in imitating Jesus, but in letting the perfect qualities of Jesus exhibit themselves in my human flesh. Sanctification is ‘Christ in you...’ (Col. 1:27). It is *His* wonderful life that is imparted to me in sanctification – imparted by faith as a sovereign gift of God’s grace. Am I willing for God to make sanctification as real in me as it is in His Word?

“Sanctification means the impartation of the holy qualities of Jesus Christ to me. It is the gift of His patience, love, holiness, faith, purity, and godliness

that is exhibited in and through every sanctified soul. Sanctification is not drawing from Jesus the power to be holy – it is drawing from Jesus the very holiness that was exhibited in Him, and that He now exhibits in me.

Sanctification is an impartation, not an imitation. Imitation is something altogether different. The perfection of everything is in Jesus Christ, and the mystery of sanctification is that all the perfect qualities of Jesus are at my disposal. Consequently, I slowly but surely begin to live a life of inexpressible order, soundness, and holiness – ‘kept by the power of God...’ (1 Peter 1:5).”

Do you see the beauty of this truth? Our part is to look to Jesus in trusting faith, believing God’s promise to manifest Christ and His righteousness in us. Our only part is to choose to let this happen and believe it will happen. When unrighteous desires and temptations come, we are not to fight against them. We are to turn to Christ who is living within us and to ask Him to manifest His own righteousness (Heb. 12:1, 2). Then we are to wait in faith believing He will do it.

When Christ is fully manifest in His people then the earth will be enlightened with His glory or character:

“And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory” (Rev. 18:1).

Then His people will be just like Jesus:

“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is” (1 John 3:2).

Then when He returns they will be able to stand in the very presence of Christ in all His glory and not be consumed. This is God’s promise to His children, and it will be fulfilled as we learn to look to Jesus in faith for this marvelous manifestation of Himself in us:

“Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy” (Jude 24).

Personal Reflection and Discussion

According to today's devotional study, what is God's will for every Christian?

What is true righteousness by faith?

Describe in your own words what Oswald Chambers wrote.

How do you plan to apply righteousness by faith to your personal life?

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