

**MONDAY****The Just and the Justifier**

**ABSG QUOTE:** At every turn, Christ's work *undoes* the work of the devil. And, according to 1 John 3:8, Jesus "was revealed for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil" and to "destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil" (*Heb. 2:14*). Yet, the total defeat of the enemy's rulership takes place in two stages. First, through the work of the Cross, Christ disproves Satan's slanderous allegations= And, later, Satan and his kingdom will be destroyed. **unquote**

**Romans 3:23–26** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

- All = no exclusions
- Couldn't He = just sweep our sins = under rug...
  - pardoning us because He loves us so?
- No = That would **NOT** satisfy justice = in manner
  - that remained consistent w/His perfect nature
- All along He had = **plan to usher in grace** = moment sin occurred by introducing His solution = of **substitutionary sacrifice**.
- In unfailing love = God planned to pay = our sin penalty for us.
- God—in Christ—sacrificed Himself = to satisfy His own justice.
- He suffered / died = to uphold His righteous law of love.

**Romans 3:24** being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

- When we enter into covenant relationship w/ Him,
- His precious blood covers record of our sins
- God declares us "justified"—*not guilty*.
- We are then = in right standing w/God = because Christ's righteousness is credited to us by our faith in Him.

**Romans 3:25** <sup>5</sup>whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,

- the cleansing / life-giving sacrifice of atonement/ reconciliation = received thru faith

**Romans 3:26** to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

- As our Substitute, Jesus removed our guilt for breaking His law—making it possible for God to be “just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus”

**Romans 5:8–10 (AMP)** <sup>8</sup>But God shows and clearly proves His [own] love for us by the fact that while we were still sinners, Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One) died for us. <sup>9</sup>Therefore, since we are now justified (acquitted, made righteous, and brought into right relationship with God) by Christ’s blood, how much more [certain is it that] we shall be saved by Him from the indignation and wrath of God.

<sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, it is much more [certain], now that we are reconciled, that we shall be saved (daily delivered from sin’s dominion) through His [resurrection] life.

- To be **justified by faith** is one aspect /being made *righteous by faith*.
- Second aspect = be **sanctified [delivered from sin’s power]** by faith
- Philippians 1:6 = 2:13

**QUOTE:** As we have seen, the enemy claims that God is not fully righteous and loving. However, in Christ, God provides the ultimate manifestation of God’s righteousness and love, and He did so through the Cross. **Unquote**    **Christ won victory = at Cross**

**The Desire of Ages, p. 761.** After the death of Jesus, “Satan saw that his disguise was torn away. His administration was laid open before the unfallen angels and before the heavenly universe. He had revealed himself as a murderer. By shedding the blood of the Son of God, he had uprooted himself from the sympathies of the heavenly beings.” —

**Genesis 3:15 = soon as sin entered, God promised Deliverer**

**Revelation 12:10–12** <sup>10</sup>Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

<sup>11</sup>**And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.**

<sup>12</sup>Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.”

**ABSG QUOTE:** The history of redemption provides abundant evidence for us to be confident that God always works to bring about in the end what is good for all concerned. The God of Scripture always does what is good and preferable, given the avenues available to Him in the great controversy (*Deut. 32:4, 1 Sam. 3:18, Ps. 145:17, Dan. 4:37, Hab. 1:13, Rev. 15:3, Gen. 18:25*).

**Why is the demonstration of God’s righteousness and love in the cosmic conflict so important?**

**When you reflect on the Cross and all of God’s works in the plan of redemption, how do God’s works give you confidence in the love of God, even amid trials and sufferings?**