

REAL GOD

A STUDY OF HIS ATTRIBUTES

RIGHTEOUSNESS, WRATH, MERCY

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all right you guys ready to go work we got lots to cover it's going to be a great time and uh if you're new we're in a sermon series called real God we're looking at who our God is the real true God what are his characteristics his traits his attributes and we live in a world where we know a lot about ourselves but not nearly enough about him and so today we're going to look at God is righteous he has wrath and he has mercy and what happens every day is news explodes and then it comes to us through technology and there tends to be some sort of moral outrage over various issues and it doesn't matter what the issue is could be a political issue could be War somewhere could be a social causer issue every issue that ARIS is there's a moral outrage but for every issue there's two sides one thinks that it is moral the other thinks that it is immoral and there's this big debate over what is right and wrong and it leads to all of this Division and acrimony throughout culture and it happens every single day what both sides of every issue share in common is this they're trying to appeal to some external unchanging standard of what is right and wrong we'll use the language of the Bible righteousness here's what we know that God made us in His image and likeness God made us with a conscience something in us just really has to believe that there is right and wrong that there is a standard that is objective and that when that standard is violated we feel violated we become frustrated we become angry we appeal to that standard and the Bible tells us that because God is righteous we have rights if there is no standard of righteousness there is no rights for people because there's no standard of righteousness to appeal to and so then the question becomes well since there's two sides to every issue which one is right and which one is wrong what is that unchanging fixed external moral standard and that brings us to God that the god of the Bible is alone righteous and we're going to deal with this in great detail and what that means is and I'll put the uh the summary up for you God does not conform to a standard of right and wrong but right and wrong flow from him as he alone is perfectly morally pure we don't just appeal to right and wrong Above All Is God and God is right and righteous we'll look at some scriptures on this 2 Chronicles 12:6 says the princes and the King humbled themselves and said the Lord is righteous Psalm 7: 9 and 11 oh righteous God God is a righteous judge and a God who feels indignation every day God is paying attention to our world and he's more frustrated than we are Psalm 71:19 your righteousness oh God reaches the High Heavens you have done great things oh God who is like you the answer is no one the story of the Bible continues by saying in Isaiah 5:16 the Lord of hosts is exalted in Justice and the holy God shows himself holy in righteousness over and over Daniel 9:7 to you oh Lord belong righteousness but to US Open shame because of the treachery that they have committed against you our sin is unrighteousness 2 Corinthians 9:9 I love this his righteousness endures forever so let's begin with this our God is right our God is righteous that's who our God is and ultimately I want you to know we don't judge God by any standard because our God is the standard of that which is right and righteous we do not judge God God judges us we do not question God God questions us god is perfect God is holy God is good God is righteous God is in thron everything God says is Right everything God does is right and God is only and always altogether righteous this is this is bedrock for Christian belief this means that God is always right and that means when we think or act differently from God we're wrong right we are unrighteous and let me say this we tend to be far more familiar with the unrighteousness of others than our own we tend to be very more excited about pointing out the flaws and errors in their life rather than owning and repenting the errors in our own none of us are in the position of God God is overall and God is righteous and God judges now what I love about the storyline of the Bible is that if we want to know what a righteous life looks like we look to the person and work of Jesus Christ and we do so by opening the scriptures or the word of God and so if you want to know what righteousness looks

like open the scriptures and find Jesus Christ who alone lives a perfectly sinless and righteous Life we'll jump into this 2 Timothy 3:16 a well-known scripture all scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching for reproof for correction for training in righteousness there is no righteousness apart from an understanding and an obedience to the word of God the reason why we're seeing an escalation of unrighteousness in our culture they would call it tolerance and diversity it is unrighteousness God does not tolerate unrighteousness and God does not want us to be diverse from his righteousness God is not about tolerance and diversity God is about righteousness and unrighteousness that's what God is about and when we open the word of God we get trained in righteousness we learn where we are wrong and he is right where we are bad and he is good where he is unchanging and there's a lot in us that needs to change if you want to grow in righteousness if you want to raise your children in righteousness if you want your marriage covenant to be committed to righteousness you must constantly open hear and heed the word of God this is God's word and it is God's righteous decrees to an unrighteous people furthermore as we grow in the grace of following the Lord and obeying the Lord uh we then are given this opportunity to become a bit at a time more like Jesus Christ and and when we're talking about God's attributes we've shared that some of his attributes are shared like his love and his mercy and his grace and his truth and his righteousness other of his attributes are unshared he's all knowing all powerful all present Sovereign and Creator and we were made to mirror God that's what it means when it says in Genesis that we were made in His image and likeness we're supposed to reflect his character to the rest of creation well there's one who does this perfectly and his name is Jesus Christ he lives an altogether perfectly righteous life he says if you've seen me you've seen the Father Paul tells the Colossians that he is the image of the invisible God his whole life perfectly reflects this righteousness of God the father and it is manifested in God the son Jesus says this himself in Matthew 5:17-18 he says and I quote do not think that I have come to abolish the law of the prophets he's talking there about the Old Testament I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them Jesus is righteous in obeying and fulfilling the scriptures for truly I say to you until Heaven and Earth pass away and they will not an Iota not a DOT will pass from the law until all is accomplished Jesus said the word of God is righteous and I'm here to obey and fulfill it that's what it means that's what it means to be the righteous one Jesus Christ in addition Jesus says this in John 8:46 and he says this openly and publicly and just so you know it's nothing I would ever do he asked this crowd uh like you some decent people assembled this question that I will never ask which of you convicts me of sin I tell you the truth why do you not believe me I would never stand on the stage and say I've lived the perfect life and I dare any of you to prove me wrong immediately you would go to my social media and just start showing things that I've said right so ultimately Jesus makes this claim that he is perfect in righteousness what a what a staggering claim what he says is I have obeyed everything that the word of God says and I have disobeyed none of it that is a magnificent claim that's either true or false and Jesus alone is righteous everything he says and does is Right everything he says and does is in perfect obedience to the word of God as a result he has given this title in Acts 22:14 we are told quote the god of our fathers appointed you to know his will to see the righteous one Jesus Christ Alone is the righteous one we are all unrighteous he alone is the righteous one a couple of things I want to say quickly number one uh God's word is always right that's right I don't care what the critics say I don't care what the scholars say I don't care about those who are educated beyond their intelligence with more degrees than Fahrenheit and their alternative translations and perspectives I don't care they're wrong and when you're wrong you're unrighteous you're unrighteous to quote Romans you're suppressing the truth in

unrighteousness it's an unrighteous thing to suppress the truth because the truth sets people free and when you suppress the truth you hurt the people wow that's and at the end of the day we live in this world where everyone is worried about the feelings well I'm worried about the soul I would rather have you that you are unrighteous so that you could become righteous through repentance of who you are and receiving of what Jesus has done ultimately the word of God is righteous and it is always right in addition uh God's word does not change and I've said this before but for those of you who are new there is uh the church in the world the world is all of those who do not know Jesus Christ the church are those who do know Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior between the church and the world is the word of God it is literally the righteous Division and what it says is those who want to obey God are in the church those who do not want to obey God are in the world and the dividing line literally truly ultimately repeatedly is the word of God we have no right to edit the word of God because we did not write it we have no right to change the word of God because God got it right the first time and he is perfect and he is right and he is righteous and what we are seeing in our day it is a damnable and deplorable thing when those who would claim to be Christians would either reduce or remove the word of God and what they're doing they're eliminating and eradicating the standard of righteousness that God has established and and the and the motivation for that is that people would find them to be popular our goal is not to be popular our goal is to make the fame of our God great by repenting of sin holding his righteous standard given in the word of God and calling others to repent of sin and receive Jesus Christ the one who alone is the righteous one we live in a day when there is an attack on the righteous word of God there is a removal of the full preaching of the whole counsel of God's word that's why unrighteousness comes into not just the world but the church and what happens is there is the church and the world and when God's standard is reduced or removed the church literally collapses into the world and there is no one who even thinks that our God is righteous they don't know that he is a standard they don't know that he is perfect and good and unchanging and that he calls all men everywhere to repent of their unrighteousness and the result is people don't get their feelings hurt but they do get their souls damned and we do that in the Name of Love and it's the most UNL thing that I could possibly think of to put your emotions and feelings above your Eternal Destiny and soul God is right God is righteous the word of God is right and righteous and righteous living looks like Jesus Christ this leads to us now we will take God's standard his righteous standard demonstrated in the word of God and the Son of God and we will examine ourselves and we will have to come to the conclusion that we are either righteous or unrighteous here is my summary we have all sinned and we've fallen short of God's righteousness Pastor Mark you don't know me I don't have to I know that all people are Sinners by nature and choice now you may have some creative ways that you've offended God but you're just like everyone else some of you say Pastor Mark you're no than me I never claim to be and I won't I'm a sinner too but Pastor Mark they have a good heart no no no the heart is deceitful and wicked God sees and knows the heart but but but but Mark this is very judgy well our God is a righteous judge Proverbs 20:9 who can say I have kept my heart pure I am clean and without sin answer no one no one Matthew 5:20 Jesus gives gives us this haunting line regarding righteousness and unrighteousness for he says I tell you unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees you will never enter the kingdom of God these were the most devoutly religious people in his day if you took spirituality religion legalism and OCD that was this group of people they were they were they were people that made rules about the rules about the rules about the rules not only do they not want to lust after a woman they wouldn't look at a woman and if a woman was coming on the sidewalk they'd go to the other side of the street and

look at the ground these are the people that Jesus he mocks them for tithing out of their spice rack 10% of the dill and the cinnamon goes to the Lord the first 10% of the cinnamon goes to the Lord in addition they took an entire day off they were meticulous about their Sabbath they were very meticulous about their dress they were exceedingly meticulous about their home and how it was organized and clean and also this went all the way to their diet they didn't eat pork like how can you be righteous you know like I mean please right how can you possibly be pork free and righteous I I understand none of this and so the people looked up to the scribes and the Pharisees they're these are the most holy most devout most religious most committed people and Jesus is like they're not good enough here's the point God's not looking for good people he's looking for Perfect People Jesus says be perfect as your heavenly father is perfect and they're imperfect so they fallen short of God's righteousness what I want to read to you now is from Romans 1 and it's on our unrighteousness as I read it it is written a few thousand years ago but it sounds exactly like America today and for those joining us online if I disappear it's because I got banned for reading Romans 1 okay and I'm just telling you it could happen all right here we go here's God in his Sovereign righteousness looking down and giving his verdict about human behavior he go he says God gave them up Romans 1:26 through 32 God gave them up to dishonorable passions certain passions desires and proclivities are dishonorable no no no mark this is pride month right it it so let's just Rebrand it a dishonorable passions month okay um goodbye to those on the internet um for their women it even believes in these Cate atories that's how that's how far gone we are their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to Nature and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another men committing Shameless acts with men and since they did not see fit to acknowledge God God gave them up to a debase mind they had professors and books and research projects showing that this was all a really good idea that's what unrighteous people do with an education right to do what ought not to be done they were filled with all manner of unrighteousness this is our theme evil covetousness malice they're full of Envy murder Strife deceit maliciousness they are gossips slanderers haters of God insolent hotti boastful inventors of evil disobedient to parents foolish faithless heartless ruthless though they know God's righteous decrees God's decrees are righteous behavior is unrighteous that those who practice such things deserve to die not only do they do them but they give approval to others they encourage others hashtags and organizations and causes and marches and protests and curriculum and candidates the goal is this not only are they unrighteous they are so so unrighteous that they think that they're righteous and they are now evangelizing others to follow in their example by being unrighteous but claiming to be wise and righteous amen it's 2,000 years I know it's an old book and it doesn't apply to us I know we look nothing like this see what I always like to tell our people and some of you are new uh God's word is timeless so it's always timely and God's word doesn't just tell us what used to happen but what always happens and that is that God is righteous God gives a righteous standard and decrees unrighteous people rebel against it judge God rather than being judged by God come to the erroneous conclusion that God is unrighteous that they are righteous and that people should be like them instead of like Jesus the summary then is given in Romans 3:10 none is righteous do you know what that means in the original Greek text none none you're like well I know a guy none none none is righteous know not one God looks down and says I can't find any righteous people not one no one understands no one seeks God so let me unpack this for you because we were created by God and we were created by God in In His Image and likeness with a conscience there's something in us that wants to be righteous we want to be righteous nobody wakes up every day and says I'm going to be the

worst person I know today and if you are get help right most of us want to feel pretty good about ourselves and we want others to think well of us as a general rule so this leads to Works righteousness Works righteousness is the human attempt to work ourselves into a position where we are righteous we're good people we're moral people we're holy people we're on the right side of the issues this manifests itself with religious Works righteousness and irreligious works righteousness let me unpack them um in Buddhism you become righteous by ceasing all desire in Confucianism you become righteous by self-education reflection self cultivation and moral living in Hinduism you become righteous by detaching yourself and your ego and living in unity with the Divine Life Force in addition in Islam you become a righteous person by reading the Quran and doing what it says and not doing what it forbids within Orthodox Judaism that does not believe in Jesus Christ the righteous would be those who keep the Old Testament law Paul a man in the New Testament tried this for many years and he came to this conclusion in Philippians 3:6 as to righteousness under the law blameless and then he goes on to say that he considered all of his religious accomplishments as dung in addition in the New Age new spirituality you uh become righteous by living as part of the Divine Oneness in harmony with the rest of creation and in dosm uh you have peace and you are righteous by aligning yourself with the world around you the point is in every other religion there's something that would be categorized as a Works righteousness do something to be a good person do something to heal yourself do something to fix yourself do something to save yourself do something to restore yourself the problem is we're the problem not the solution the problem is once you're un let me say this as well once you're unrighteous no amount of righteousness will undo your right your unrighteousness let's say you've been unrighteous for 40 years and you say for the next 40 years I will be righteous you've already got 40 Years of unrighteousness that is credited to your life account no matter what you do even if you live perfectly every day in thought word deed and motive it's too late it's it's too late you're unrighteous in addition Works righteousness for those who are irreligious it manifests itself in a number of ways for some it is political I am going to be politically active I am going to have my commitment not be to a religion but to a party and I am going to be a righteous person by supporting causes and candidates and I'm going to go to war every day for that which is right in addition this irreligious pursuit of righteousness it is happening right now in an epidemic way in our culture on issues of sex marriage and gender and the whole argument is well you want to be on the right side of History I could care less about the right side of History right I care about the right side of Eternity I care about standing before a holy and righteous God I want to stand before him and I want to make sure that I am on his side whatever history might say I care about what eternity says and what we're seeing in our day is people that think that they're righteous because they support certain behaviors Lifestyles people do this with their causes as well we call this social justice every social justice Warrior is seeking irreligious Works righteousness I'm a good person I'm I'm arguing against the bad people I'm I'm saving the planet I'm fixing the environment I I am I am you know confusing the Next Generation that's how righteous I am and the result is people get very self-righteous if you disagree with them they crucify you it's called being cancelled like I'm good you're bad I'm right you're wrong I'm judge you're guilty this is all offensive to God it's offensive to God God actually tells us what he thinks about all of our works righteousness our efforts to fix and heal and save ourselves I'll give it to you in a moment God uses very strong language um God doesn't often use strong language in the Bible and you shouldn't use strong language all the time otherwise it loses its punch but every once in a while God will use strong language like whoa it's because he's trying to make a point that we can't forget sometimes sometimes it is the most

righteous people that are the most unrighteous in the sight of God and and and works righteousness is the most unrighteous of all Lifestyles I'll read it to you it says this in Isaiah 646 all of us have become like one who is unclean and all our righteous acts all of them every hashtag every post every religious demonstration apart from faith in Jesus Christ are like filthy rags okay um let me explain this to you the language of unclean it means ceremonially or ritually unclean okay we're Gentile for the ancient Jews they well when a woman has a certain time of the month she's unclean and during that time of the month she would use a rag right now I can't say a lot more because I'm a man on the internet right now so but so what he's saying is when we come before God and we're like I went to Mecca I I sat in the Lotus position I I gave to a political party I I'm saving the planet I I recycled I did it I I reposted all the hashtags for pride month I did it um I'm a really good person here here God let me give it to you what he says is that's a used tampon happy birthday I got you something wish you could see the faces of the men they're like see what we think makes us righteous actually makes us unrighteous the harder you try the worse you are we're not good people we're bad people we're not the solution we're the problem we're not the hero we're the villain it's going to get worse that was the encouraging introduction a righteous God has to deal with unrighteousness otherwise he's unrighteous that's good right I it if someone is righteous and they allow that which is unrighteous that means that they are participating and they are now acting unrighteous because God is righteous he must deal with that which is unrighteous this leads us to the next shared attribute of God the wrath of God we're talking about the wrath of God the wrath of God is not spoken of for every sermon on the Wrath of God there are 10,000 on the love of God there are zero there are zero songwriters today that to me seem very enthusiastic about the wrath of God that's not positive uplifting and safe for the whole family but it's true God's Wrath is his perfectly just anger punishing unrighteousness and and sometimes people say God has no right to get angry you get angry why can't he if you and I who are unrighteous get frustrated what right do we have to tell a perfectly righteous God that he has no right to be unhappy displeased or even angry with what he sees let's just read the word of God faith comes by hearing the word of God Deuteronomy 29:24 through 27 all the nations will ask why has the Lord done this to the land why this fierce Burning Anger and the answer will be it is because this people abandoned the Covenant of the Lord they went off and woried other gods and bowed down to them gods they did not know Gods he had not given them demons other religions spiritualities therefore the Lord's anger burned in Furious anger and in great wrath the Lord uprooted them Romans 1:18 the wrath of God is revealed from Heaven against all the ungodliness and unrighteousness now they don't think that they're unrighteous but God does of men who by their unrighteousness or theme suppress the truth Galatians 6:7 do not be deceived and many are most are they're deceived I'm a good person go to a better place when you die I've got a good heart I'm sure I'm sure my good deeds have outweighed my bad do not be deceived God is Not mocked for whatever one SWS that will he also reap you say well I've heard otherwise I I've heard pastors and professors and pontificators and they they disagree with you here's a verse for them Ephesians 5:6 let no one deceive you with empty words if you want to if you want to find a lie there's someone willing to profit by telling you that lie for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of Disobedience so what should we do when we realize that God is righteous and we are unrighteous Colossians 3:5-6 put to death don't ple with your sin don't wound your sin don't hide your sin kill your sin before your sin kills you put to death therefore what is Earthly in you sexual immorality impurity passion evil desire and covetousness which which is idolatry it's the worshiping of someone or something other than God on account of these the wrath of God is coming Hebrews 10:31 it is a fearful thing to fall

into the hands of the Living God the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom there's not there's not a fear of God in our day not an awe not a respect not a Wonder it's a fearful thing if you don't know God to fall into his hands Romans 2 4-5 or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience we dealt with that attribute of God previously not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance God I have violated your righteousness I am unrighteous I Repent of my unrighteousness I Chang my mind I change my behavior I change my lifestyle because you are right and I am wrong amen but because of your hard and impenitent hearts you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of Wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed Paul is here articulating two forms of Wrath passive wrath storing up wrath that's passive wrath active wrath the day of judgment and Wrath some of you are thinking that there is no God or that God isn't exactly as he is depicted and portrayed in the scriptures or that God has changed his mind which we dealt with in a previous sermon God does not change his mind because God gets it right the first time and many people think well God says it's wrong in the Bible but he hasn't done anything he hasn't punished me there's no consequences I I do whatever I want and nothing changes you're not getting away with anything warn you you're storing up everything think of it this way your your life is like a river of sin and Folly and Disobedience and unrighteousness and right now God has a dam up you're just storing up all of your sin all of his Justice and all of his wrath when the day of judgment comes the damn breaks and all of God's Wrath comes on on you perfectly and suddenly I don't know when that day is friend you you could die today why would you wait and delay why would you risk why would you risk see God has been patient with us he's been kind to us but it's not tolerance it's to bring us to repentance storing up wrath and then active Wrath it's when God just comes to the point where he says my patience is done and my wrath begins we see this we see this in the days of Noah where literally human sin was sort of damned up as it were they were storing up wrath passive wrath and then God sent the flood and literally the proverbial damn broke and everyone died we saw this in Sodom and Gomorrah two towns that were so devoted to sexual sin against God that he literally leveled and destroyed the entire towns with the equivalent of a nuclear strike archaeologists have dug up that location and they confirm it's all fact there is coming a day when Jesus will return or you will die and if you don't know Jesus that's when the passive wrath becomes the active wrath this is God's Fury this is God's anger this is God's judgment this is God's perfect Justice and let me let me say this plainly Christians will talk about I want to become a Christian so so that I can be saved question is save from who or what God's Wrath you were not saved from a low self-esteem you were not saved because Jesus wanted you to achieve your full potential you were you were not saved you were not saved from anything less than God we are saved by God we are saved to God and we are saved for God let me say this if you don't fear God if you don't honor God if you don't consider God you don't understand God some of you have such a little God such a diminished view of God let me say this the entire planet is going to stand before a righteous God and everyone in everything will be laid bare and for those who do not know his son and our Savior Jesus Christ that will commence the Wrath That Never Ends to be saved is to be saved from the wrath of God Amen and this is the mercy of God see I want you to I want you to understand the wrath of God so that you're excited about the mercy of God like oh there's an option yes there is an option it's called Mercy this is one of God's attributes God does not give some some people what they deserve because he is kind loving gracious compassionate and forgiving to the ill deserving I I put ill deserving because if we were just strangers to God we would be undeserving but because we're enemies of God we're ill deserving when God gives you Mercy don't think it's because you're wonderful but because he is

not because you're lovely but because he's loving not because you deserve it but because that's his character this is the most common scripture cited in scripture Exodus 34:6 the Lord passed before him that is Moses and proclaimed the Lord the Lord a God merciful and gracious slow to anger that's why we're still breathing and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness Deuteronomy 4:31 the Lord your God is a He's a merciful God scriptures continue Psalm 25:6 and 7 remember your mercy oh Lord and your steadfast love for they have been from old remember not the sins of my youth we all did stupid year things in high school or my transgressions according to your steadfast love remember me for the sake of your goodness oh Lord Psalm 116:5 over and over gracious is the Lord and righteous our God is merciful right there he's righteous and merciful do you see that people are like well how H how could How could a loving God be judgmental no no no he's righteous and merciful Daniel 9:9 to the Lord Our God belong mercy and forgiveness for we've rebelled against him James 5:11 Jesus half brother says the Lord is compassionate and merciful just a few more Hebrews 2:17 therefore he Jesus had to be made like his brothers in every respect God became a man so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service to God and I love 1 Peter 1:3 blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ according to his great Mercy he's caused us to be born again to a Living Hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead um we don't deserve Mercy we have no right to Mercy people will say this how could a loving God send people to Hell well I love that I'm not going to be with certain people forever that seems very loving to me if you don't love him and you don't love me I love the fact that we're not going to be together forever uh in addition my question would be How could a righteous God take anybody to Heaven W God how could you do that you're you're a righteous person person God and Heaven is a righteous place I'm an unrighteous person I have no right to that place there were two categories of beings that have sinned against God and chosen the path of unrighteousness angels and humans the Angels who rebelled against God and chose unrighteousness sin they're called demons do you know what a demon never gets Mercy do you know how many demons go to heaven zero do you know how many demons get their sins forgiven zero do you know how many demons Jesus died for zero all they get is the righteousness of God and the wrath of God they do not get the mercy of God we did the same thing as the demons we sinned against God we chose unrighteousness we in fact sided with Satan in his Rebellion against God and God looks at Divine beings and human beings and says No Mercy Mercy we deserve to be treated like the demons but instead we're treated like Sons and Daughters there is a sick perversion in the human heart and it infects many pulpits that says that the mercy of God shows how wonderful and valuable you are God couldn't live without you my answer is he did for eternity before he made us and his Mercy doesn't show how valuable I am but how wonderful he is right it's the mercy of God so let me let me try and bring the sermon to a point at the cross of Jesus Christ the cross of Jesus Christ is where we see the wrath of God and the mercy of God upholding the righteousness of God we'll read these verses about the death of Jesus in our place for our sins then I'll explain it to you Romans 1:16-17 I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ let me just say you should not be ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ we are not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ that God is righteous we are unrighteous and apart from Jesus Christ there is only wrath and there is no mercy I'm not ashamed of the gospel for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes friend do you believe in Jesus for in it the righteousness of God is revealed from Faith to Faith as it is written the righteous shall live by faith this is gift righteousness not works righteous it's not what I do it's what Jesus does it's not my performance it's his Perfection it's not what I earn it's the grace that he gives in addition 2 Corinthians 5:21 here's what happened at the Cross of Christ for

our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin so that in him we might become the righteousness of God the only way to be righteous in the sight of God is by turning from sin and trusting in Jesus Christ Christ the righteous one he went to the cross and he suffered and died not for his sin because he is righteous and has no sin he suffered and died in my place for my sins he took my unrighteousness he gave me his righteousness now I am in the position of Jesus Christ and on the cross Jesus was in my position he took the Wrath and he gave me the mercy only through Jesus Christ is there any righteousness and can we stand before a holy and righteous God and not Faith wrath and judgment 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 for those who are Christians you turn to God from Idols to serve the living and true God and to wait for his son from Heaven whom he raised from the dead Jesus who rescues us from the coming Wrath Jesus I don't have to worry about dying Jesus I don't need to live with all the anxiety of what's going to happen Jesus I know I know that forever forever you've got Mercy for me oh thank you Jesus Philippians 3:8 be found in him not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law trying harder doing better but that which comes through faith in Jesus Christ the righteousness from God that depends on faith when you stand before God you don't tell him here's what I've done you say I'm with Jesus we all know what he's done we don't point to ourselves we point to our Savior My righteousness is in Jesus Christ Titus 3:5 he saved us not because of Works done by us in righteousness but according to his own Mercy there we see it God's righteousness and his Mercy at the Cross of Christ by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit 1 Peter 3:18 for Christ also suffered once for sins the the righteous for the unrighteous that's us that he might bring us to God being put to death in the flesh made alive in the spirit if 1 John 1:9 if if we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from how much of our unrighteousness all of it all of it lastly 1 John 2:1 to you Christians with tender conscience my little children I'm writing these things to you that you may not sin but if anyone does sin we have an advocate with the father Jesus Christ the the righteous let me close with an invitation at the cross of Jesus Christ we see the wrath of God and the mercy of God we see the wrath of God when Jesus is up all night praying and sweating drops of blood and being betrayed and being arrested and being beaten we see that God is allowing Jesus to be treated the way that we should be treated as Rebels and Sinners and unrighteous Jesus then carries his cross and he collapses it causes a chest contusion he's struggling laboring put a crown of thorns on his head and they mock him as a king this just shows how unrighteous we are the righteous one comes and we think that we're righteous and he's unrighteous Jesus then goes to the Cross they they nail through the most sensitive nerve centers in the hands and the feet they crucify God we lift him up and there Jesus is bleeding and dying and he's praying and talking my God my God why have you forsaken me that's what he says it's because he took your place it's because he took my place he took the position of the unrighteous and endured the wrath of God Jesus Christ took my place he endured the wrath of God he perfectly satisfied the righteousness of God and in that moment Jesus knew that he was dying for me so thank you Jesus and he gives me mercy he gives me mercy he gives me mercy and then he says from the cross in a loud triumphant voice it is finished it's all done God made him who knew no sin to become sin so that in him we might become the righteousness of God not only did Jesus take my place he put me in his place he endured the wrath of God for all of my unrighteousness and he gave me all of his righteousness here's what I'm telling you friend you need Jesus Christ we all need Jesus Christ Christ and I'm going to briefly in just a moment ask you if you're watching online you can pray with me if you're here in the room and you would either like to become a Christian right now give Jesus your sin and receive him as your savior go from the wrath of God to the mercy of God I'm going to ask you to

stand and we're just going to pray with you and if you are someone who would say that you're a Christian but you've been living an unrighteous life of Disobedience this is the day for you as a prodigal to come home and to repent and for life to change going forward if that is you and you'd like to pray with me briefly please stand so that we can pray with you please stand thank you sir thank you sir thank you ma'am thank you sir thank you sir thank you ma'am anybody else I'll just make one invitation please remain standing anyone else wants to stand and just pray with us thank you we're glad to have you you don't need to live with fear anymore look at me sir you don't need to live with fear anymore the spirit of fear is gone in Jesus name amen God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power and love and a sound mind pray with me Lord Jesus pray after me Lord Jesus Lord Jesus I am a sinner I have broken your laws Jesus you are a savior Jesus you have satisfied your laws you satisfied thank you for taking my placeing thank you for putting me in your place I belong to you to in Jesus name amen