
Big Idea: What must I do to be accepted by God? This is a question that bothered Martin Luther, and it's a question that we need to wrestle with today. It's also answered in detail by the book of Romans. Chapter 1 verses 16 and 17 act as a summary and thesis statement of the rest of the book of Romans.

I. Introduction

“What must we do, to be accepted by God?” - Why did this question torment Martin Luther?

II. Romans 1:16

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.

- A. What is the gospel?
- B. Have you ever been ashamed of the gospel?
- C. How is the gospel “the Power of God”?
- D. What is salvation?
- E. What does it mean that the gospel was “to the Jew first?”

III. Romans 1:17

For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

- A. Definition. Righteousness =
- B. Why was “the righteousness of God” not such good news to Martin Luther?
- C. Why does Paul quote the book of Habakkuk?
- D. Definition. Justification =
- E. When the verse says, “the righteousness of God” what is it referring to?
- F. Summarize the gospel in your own words.