

# The Righteousness That Saves

## Colossians 3:1-4



As we open our August series, “*The Righteousness of God: Revealing the Heart of the King*,” we turn to Paul’s declaration in Romans 1. He boldly proclaims that the gospel is not something to be ashamed of—it is the very power of God to save. In these two verses, Paul outlines how true life begins—not through our effort, but through faith in the righteousness that God reveals and gives.

### I. The Gospel Is the Power of God (Romans 1:16)

A. For I am not \_\_\_\_\_ of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes...

B. **Not advice, but** \_\_\_\_\_ — The gospel isn’t a suggestion for better living; it’s divine, life-giving power. (Greek: dynamis)

C. **For** \_\_\_\_\_ — God rescues us from sin, wrath (v. 18), slavery (Romans 6:6), and death (Hebrews 2:15).

D. **To** \_\_\_\_\_ **who believes** — The offer is universal, but the reception is conditional: by **faith**, not works or merit.

E. **To the Jew first and also to the Greek** — God’s plan is for all people, regardless of background or status.

### II. The Gospel Reveals God’s Righteousness (Romans 1:17)

A. For in it the \_\_\_\_\_ of God is revealed from faith to faith...

B. \_\_\_\_\_, **not achieved** — God’s righteousness is His saving action and the righteous standing He gives.

C. **From** \_\_\_\_\_ — Faith at the beginning, faith in the middle, and faith to the end.

1. Received by faith
2. Lived out by faith
3. Shared through faith

D. The righteous will live by faith (Romans 1:17b; Habakkuk 2:4)

1. **“The** \_\_\_\_\_ **”** — Those declared just by God through faith (cf. Romans 3:22).

2. **“Will** \_\_\_\_\_ **”** — Not just moral living, but spiritual resurrection:

- a) Alive from sin (Ephesians 2:4–5)
- b) Living in Christ now (Galatians 2:20)
- c) Living forever with God (John 3:16)

3. **“By** \_\_\_\_\_ **”** — Not a one-time decision, but an ongoing posture of surrender and trust.

### III. As We Close...

A. The gospel is not a moral code or religious routine—it is the message of life.

B. The righteousness of God is not earned. It is revealed.

C. And those who receive it by faith... will live.

D. “The righteous will live by faith.”

1. Let’s believe it.

### Questions

1. Why was Paul not ashamed of the gospel—even though it looked weak to the world?
2. What does it mean that the gospel is “the power of God for salvation”?
3. How is God’s righteousness different from self-righteousness?
4. What does it mean to “live by faith”? How is that different from trying to earn salvation?
5. How does this message shape the way we share the Kingdom with others?

### Answers

Faith  
Ashamed  
Live  
Power  
Righteous  
Salvation  
Faith to Faith  
Everyone  
Reveals  
Righteousness