

October 31, 2021

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## “Semper Reformanda”

Romans 3:21-26

Memory Verses: Romans 3:23-24

### Introduction

- A. Semper Reformanda—always being reformed
  - B. “But how can a man be in the right before God?” (Job 9:2)
  - C. Big Idea: The righteousness we need is a gift from God for all who believe in Christ.
  - D. “Justification may be defined as that gracious act of God whereby, on the basis solely of Christ’s accomplished mediatorial work, he declares the sinner just, and the latter accepts this benefit with a believing heart” (William Hendriksen).
  - E. Second London Confession of Faith, chapter 11
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- I. The Righteousness of God Is Not Achieved by the Work of Man (3:21)
    - A. Mark 12:29-31
    - B. Isaiah 45:24-25
    - C. Genesis 15:6
    - D. Habakkuk 2:4
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- II. The Righteousness of God Is a Gift for All Sinners Who Believe in Christ (3:22-24)
    - A. “This righteousness is granted to all those—and only those—who put this faith into practice; that is, to all true believers in Jesus Christ” (William Hendriksen).
    - B. Romans 3:19-20
    - C. Romans 8:1
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- III. The Righteousness of God Is Based on the Work of Christ (3:25-26)
    - A. The death of Jesus demonstrates that God justifies sinners through faith.
    - B. What has God done? Propitiation—to appease, placate, satisfy.
    - C. Facets of Propitiation
      - 1. An offense to be removed—our sin
      - 2. An offended person—God
      - 3. The offending party—us
      - 4. A sacrifice to make atonement for the offense—Jesus dying on the cross (John Owen)
    - D. How did God do it? Jesus died on the cross as our substitute.
    - E. Why did God do it? To show his righteousness.

## Conclusion

- A. The righteousness we need is a gift from God for all who believe in Christ.
- B. Hebrews 10:1-14
- C. Isaiah 53:6
- D. 1 Peter 2:24
- E. The Gospel Definition