

Desiring God, Pt. 2, Hunger for God and His Righteousness

What does Righteousness mean?

-Right-standing with God

The dictionary describes it as: "Morally right, justifiable, and virtuous"

Gen. 6:9 helps us see what it looks like. Noah was blameless and walked with God. Is this kind of relationship with God possible?

Righteousness is an attribute of God that is given to believer's through faith in Christ, but it is an attribute in us that must be stretched and grown.

A person not in Christ will never be righteous.

Philanthropic people without Christ have no righteousness.

In order to have "morally right" or justifiable actions, one has to have a starting point of a moral compass, and we know that the starting point is God's Word and even better God Himself!

The question we need to ask is, "How do I live a righteous life when I still struggle with my flesh (my selfish thoughts and will)?"

Let's lay a foundation for what God is doing in us

1) He is initiating change

-Phil. 2:12-13. God is working in us to will and work for His pleasure

-Phil 1:6. God is bringing to completion every good work in us, starting with salvation!

2) We are in a battle for change

-Gal. 5:16-17. We are to walk by the Spirit. The Spirit is against the flesh, and opposed to the flesh.

3) God has given us a process of changing

-Eph. 3:21-24. Put off the old life. Renew our mind (reading God's Word, prayer, fellowship with other believers). Put on the new life created IN CHRIST. We should desire to BE LIKE GOD.

Actions of a Righteous Person

-Psalm 64:10. Rejoices in God. God is their refuge!

-Psalm 119:137-144. We seek to understand God's ways and obey them. They are everything to us!

-Matthew 9:13 (from Micah 6:8). The righteous person understands their righteousness comes from repentance from sin and not from within their own selves.

-Habakkuk 2:4. We live by faith

-Matthew 6:33. We seek God's Kingdom and His righteousness over provision and needs because He already knows!

Results of Living in Righteousness

-Romans 5:21. Our righteousness in God leads to eternal life.

-Psalm 92:12-15. We will flourish in the courts of God. This is an eternal picture of us worshiping God in heaven someday. See Revelation 3:12 for wording extremely close to this.

-Proverbs 15:29. God hears our prayer!