God is Just and the Justifier Romans 3:21–26

Context

"None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God; all have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." (Romans 3:10–12)

God is Just

"The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he." (Deuteronomy 32:4)

"For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it." (James 2:10)

"There was general agreement that if you tried your best to live an honourable life and did your duty and were faithful to friends and not unkind to the weak and poor, it did not matter much what you believed or disbelieved. All would come out right." (Winston Churchill)

"By works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight." (Romans 3:20)

God is the Justifier

"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." (2 Corinthians 5:21)

"Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin." (John 8:34)

"Knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot." (1 Peter 1:18–19)

"Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied, for every sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live." ("In Christ Alone")

"Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free, for God the just is satisfied, to look on Him and pardon me." ("Before the Throne of God Above")

"It is finished" (John 19:30)

Notes			

Discuss

- What is the righteousness of God, and why do we all need it?
- What are some incorrect ways that sinners draw distinctions among themselves, and how can you avoid doing that?
- What do the words justification, redemption, and propitiation mean, and how do they connect to God saving sinners?
- In your own words, what is the gospel?

Read

John 19:1-42; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Pray

- That God would humble you by giving a deeper knowledge of your sinfulness.
- That God would help you to rest in the finished work of Jesus.
- That God would give you opportunities to speak about the gospel to non-Christians.