The Epoch of Gospel Revelation Romans 3:21	
"[Romans 3:21–26] is probably the most important paragraph in the entire letter to the Romans."  -Thomas Schreiner	
"The chief point, and the very central place of the epistle, and the whole Bible."  -Martin Luther	

Romans 3:21	
10mms 0.21	
"But now the righteousness of God has	
been manifested apart from the law,	
although the Law and the Prophets bear	
witness to it—"	
4	
right·eous·ness/'rīCHəsnəs/	
noun	
the quality or state of being righteous.	
5	
right·eous/'rīCHəs/	
Adjective	
1. (of a person or conduct) morally right or	
justifiable; virtuous. characterized by	
uprightness or morality.	

mo·ral·i·ty/məˈralədē/	
noun	
principles concerning the distinction	
between right and wrong or good and bad	
behavior.	-
	-
7	
good/good/	
noun	
1. that which is morally right;	
righteousness.	
8	
Question:	
Where does righteousness come from?	
9	

	_
Answer:	
Righteousness does not exist apart from	
God. God alone is righteous, and	
righteousness comes from God alone.	
10	_
	_
Question:	
What is righteousness?	
11	
	7
Answer:	
Righteousness: (dikaiosýnē) divine	
approval, God's judicial approval, the	
approval of God. Refers to what is deemed	
right by the Lord (after His examination), i.e. what is approved in His eyes.	

Righteousness describes	
1. God's character	
2. God's standard	
3. God's actions	
3. God 5 detions	-
13	
13	
God is righteous:	
Psalm 119:137	
"Righteous are You, O Lord, and upright are Your judgments."	
Deuteronomy 32:4	
"A God of faithfulness and without injustice,	
righteous and upright is He."	
14	
C - 12 1 1	
God's standard is righteous:	
Psalm 97:2	
"Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne."	
Romans 3:23	
"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of	
God"	

God's actions are righteous:	-
Hosea 14:9  "Whoever is wise, let him understand these things; whoever is discerning, let him know them; for the ways of the Lord are right, and the upright walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them."  Psalm 145:17  "The Lord is righteous in all His ways and kind in all His deeds."	
Question:  What is "the righteousness of God?"	
17	
17	
Answer:	
"The righteousness of God is the divine	
attribute that describes God as acting	
always in a way that is consistent with his	
own character." -Fred Zaspel.	
18	

The righteousness of God is revealed in at	
least three ways:	
1) God's righteous demands.	
2) God's judging righteousness.	
3) God's saving righteousness.	
o) cod our ing right course	
19	
1 Peter 1:16	
"it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am	
holy'."	
noly.	
20	
20	
Leviticus 18:4-5	

Romans	1:32
ILUIIIAIIS	1.02

"Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them."

22

## Revelation 16:5-7

23

## Romans 2:5

"But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed."



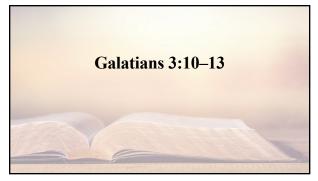


26

## **Question:**

When Paul says the righteousness of God is "manifested," is he presenting some new doctrine, something never heard of?

Question:	
What do all false beliefs have in common?	
28	
Question:	
What distinguishes Christianity from all other religions?	
29	
Romans 3:28	
"For we hold that one is justified by faith	<u> </u>
apart from works of the law."	
30	



# Question: What's the "But now" there for?

32

## **Answer:**

The "But now" statement at the beginning of verse 21 marks:

- A. The turning point of the book of Romans.
- B. The turning point of the entire Bible.
- C. The turning point of redemptive history

"There are no more wonderful words in the	
whole of Scripture than just these two	
words 'But now'."	
-Martin Lloyd Jones	
What the Eloya solies	
34	
Question:	
Question.	
How is this Christ event applicable to us?	
35	
33	
Damana 7.6	
Romans 7:6	
"But now we are released from the law,	
having died to that which held us captive,	
so that we serve in the new way of the	
Spirit and not in the old way of the written	
code."	
couc.	
26	
36	

Galatians 3:24-25	
"So then, the law was our guardian until	
Christ came, in order that we might be	
justified by faith. But now that faith has	
come, we are no longer under a	
guardian"	
37	
Ephesians 2:13	
"But now in Christ Jesus you who once	
were far off have been brought near by the	
blood of Christ."	
38	
Ephesians 5:8	
"for at one time you were darkness, but	
now you are light in the Lord. Walk as	
children of light"	

	T .	
1	Peter	7.10
	I CLCI	4.10

"Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."

## Romans 3:21a The epoch of gospel revelation

### Questions

- 1. Why is it impossible to accurately define "righteousness" without including God?
- 2. Is it possible for secular scholars to be consistent with their atheistic presuppositions when attempting to define invisible nouns such as righteousness or truth?\_\_\_\_Discuss
- 3. When blatant lies are being openly and publicly propagated by our culture as truth, should the church do anything?\_\_\_\_ if not, why not? If so, what?
- 4. Do abortion, homosexual marriage and transgenderism exist within the political realm and therefore off-limits to Christians? Or are these actually moral issues that are being politicized? Whose realm do these subjects belong to the state's or God's? How might we as Christians stand against such things in a way that honors God? Try to defend your position from scripture.
- 5. How are we to live quiet and peaceable lives while simultaneously making disciples of the nations, exposing evil and making an appeal to men on behalf of God as ambassadors for Christ? See 1 Timothy 2:1-4; Matthew 28:18–20; Ephesians 5:11; 2 Corinthians 5:21
- 6. Although Christ has ascended into heaven, we are still his body, his representatives, his ambassadors.
  - A. If his physical presence in the world changed everything, then what about the church's physical presence in the world? See Acts 17:6.
  - B. As those who have been entrusted with the truth, what is our responsibility to the world who is being lied to?
- 7. In light of the "but now's" contained in the following verses, how then should we live? Read Romans 6:22, Romans 7:6, Galatians 3:24-25, Ephesians 2:13, Ephesians 5:8, 1 Peter 2:10