

Great misunderstandings

Righteousness

2 Corinthians 5:20-21

2 Corinthians 5

“²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as through God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

Righteousness - misunderstanding #1

- **I can be reconciled to God without being righteous.**

“Because God is love He has mercy on everyone!”

“Because God is fair He grades on the curve!”

“Because God is in us He empowers all Christians to live without sin!”

Righteousness - Point #1

- **I can be reconciled to God *only by being made righteous.***

Hebrews 12:14

“Pursue peace with all men, and sanctification, without which no man shall see the Lord”

1 Peter 1

“¹⁵ but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; ¹⁶ because it is written, “*You shall be holy, for I am holy.*”

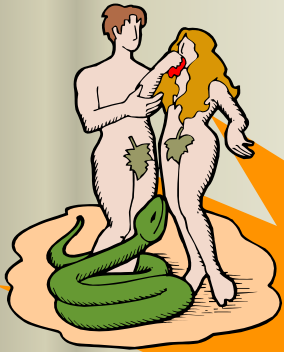
Righteousness - misunderstanding #2

- I can be reconciled to God without being righteous.
- The righteousness that reconciles me to God is generated in me.

Righteousness - Point #2

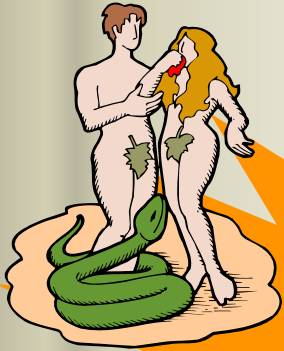
- **The righteousness that reconciles me to God is produced for me by Christ.**

Three great imputations



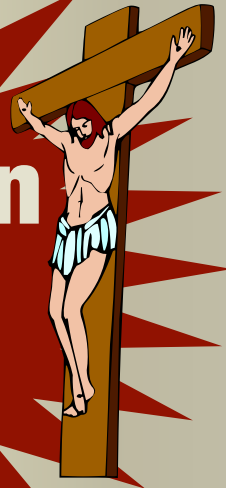
**Adam's sin
unto humanity**

Three great imputations

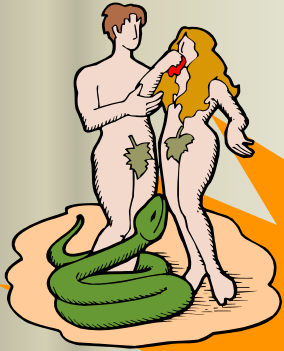


**Adam's sin
unto humanity**

**Humanities sin
unto Christ**

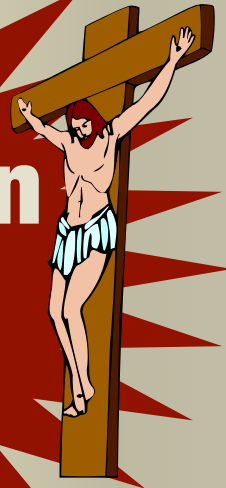


Three great imputations



**Adam's sin
unto humanity**

**Humanities sin
unto Christ**



**Christ's
righteousness
unto all who
believe**



Righteousness - Point #2

- The righteousness that reconciles me to God **is produced for me by Christ.**

**In the same way
and to the same extent
that Christ became guilty for me,
I became righteous in him.**



+

**Imputed but
not deserved
or experienced**



Sin & Guilt


Righteousness

**Imputed but
not deserved
or experienced**



Sin & Guilt

Four kinds of righteousness



**The perfect
righteousness
of God**

Four kinds of righteousness

**The perfect
righteousness
of God**

The
self-righteousness
of man



Four kinds of righteousness

**The perfect
righteousness
of God**

The
self-righteousness
of man

**The imputed
righteousness
of Christ**



Four kinds of righteousness

**The perfect
righteousness
of God**

The
self-righteousness
of man



**The imputed
righteousness
of faith**



The imparted
righteousness
of the Holy Spirit.



Righteousness - misunderstanding #3

- I can be reconciled to God without being righteous.
- The righteousness that reconciles me to God is generated in me.
- **The righteousness of faith is seen in my moral performance.**

Righteousness - Point #3

- The righteousness of faith **is seen in my legal position “in Christ.”**

Holiness

(two forms)

Ceremonial
Position

*“the holy
Temple”*

Moral
Performance

*“be ye holy in
all that you do”*

Holiness

(two forms)

Ceremonial
Position

*“the holy
Temple”*



Moral
Performance

*“be ye holy in
all that you do”*



Priest

Christian Holiness

(two forms)

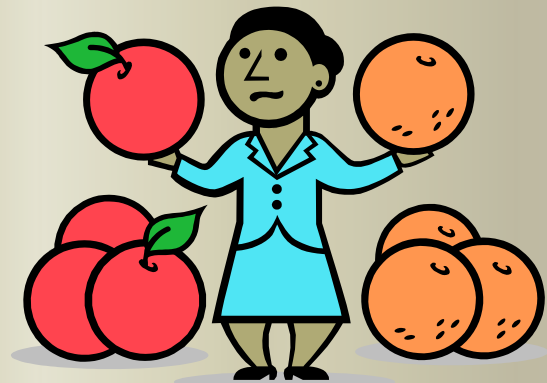
Ceremonial
Position

Me “in Christ”



Moral
Performance

“Christ in me”



The church at Corinth

(had the first but not the second)

Ceremonial
Position

“saints by calling”



Moral
Performance

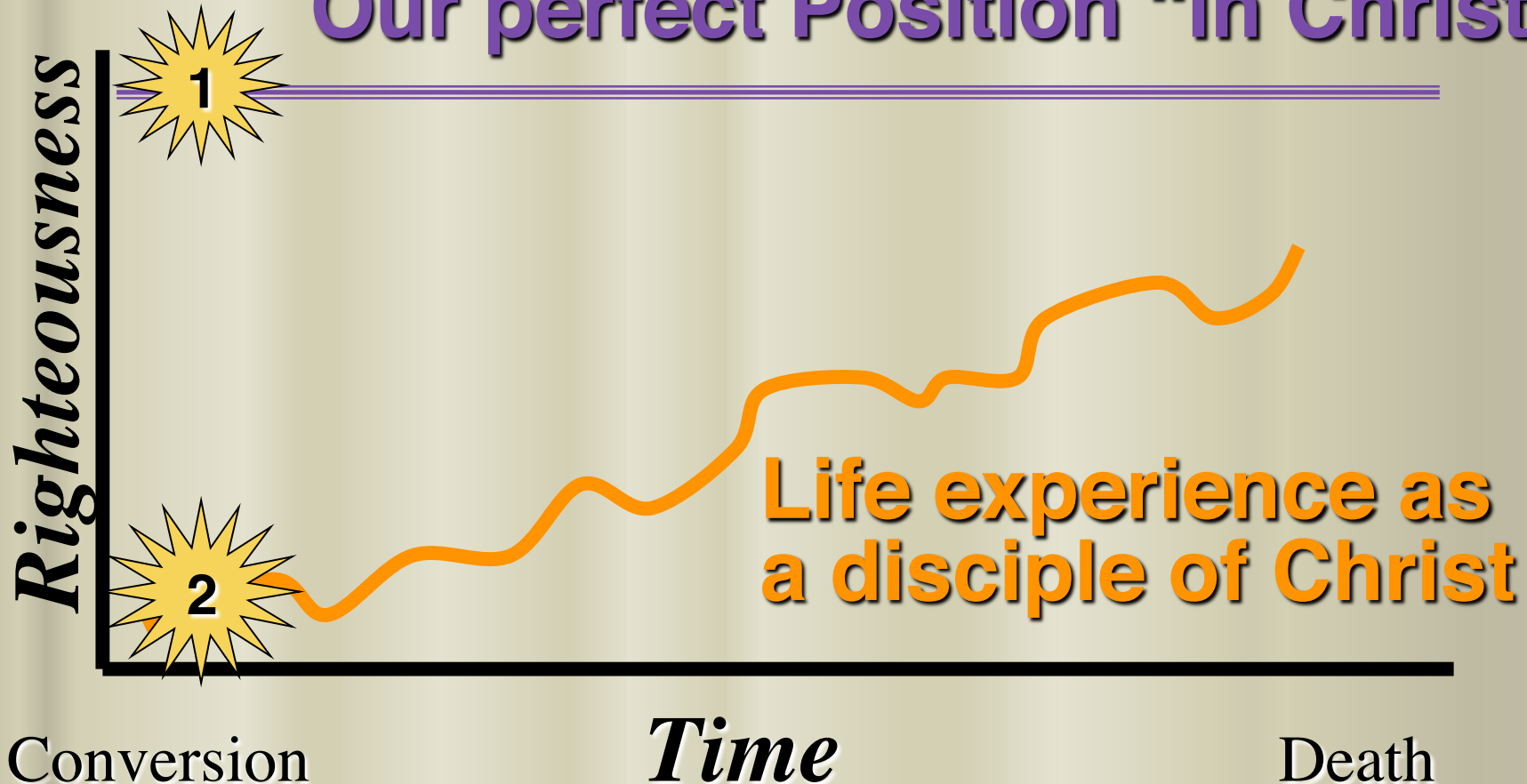
*“walking like
men”*



“Sanctified in Christ”

Perfection

Our perfect Position “in Christ”



Conversion

Time

Death

*The believer's **position** “in Christ”*

- ✓ It is non-experiential.
- ✓ It is not progressive.
- ✓ It must be learned through teaching.
- ✓ It is acknowledged through faith.
- ✓ It is not related to human merit.
- ✓ It fully satisfies the demands of a perfectly holy God.

Righteousness - misunderstanding #4

- I can be reconciled to God without being righteous.
- The righteousness that reconciles me to God is generated in me.
- The righteousness of faith is seen in my moral performance.
- **The righteousness generated in me by grace is the automatic result of the new birth.**

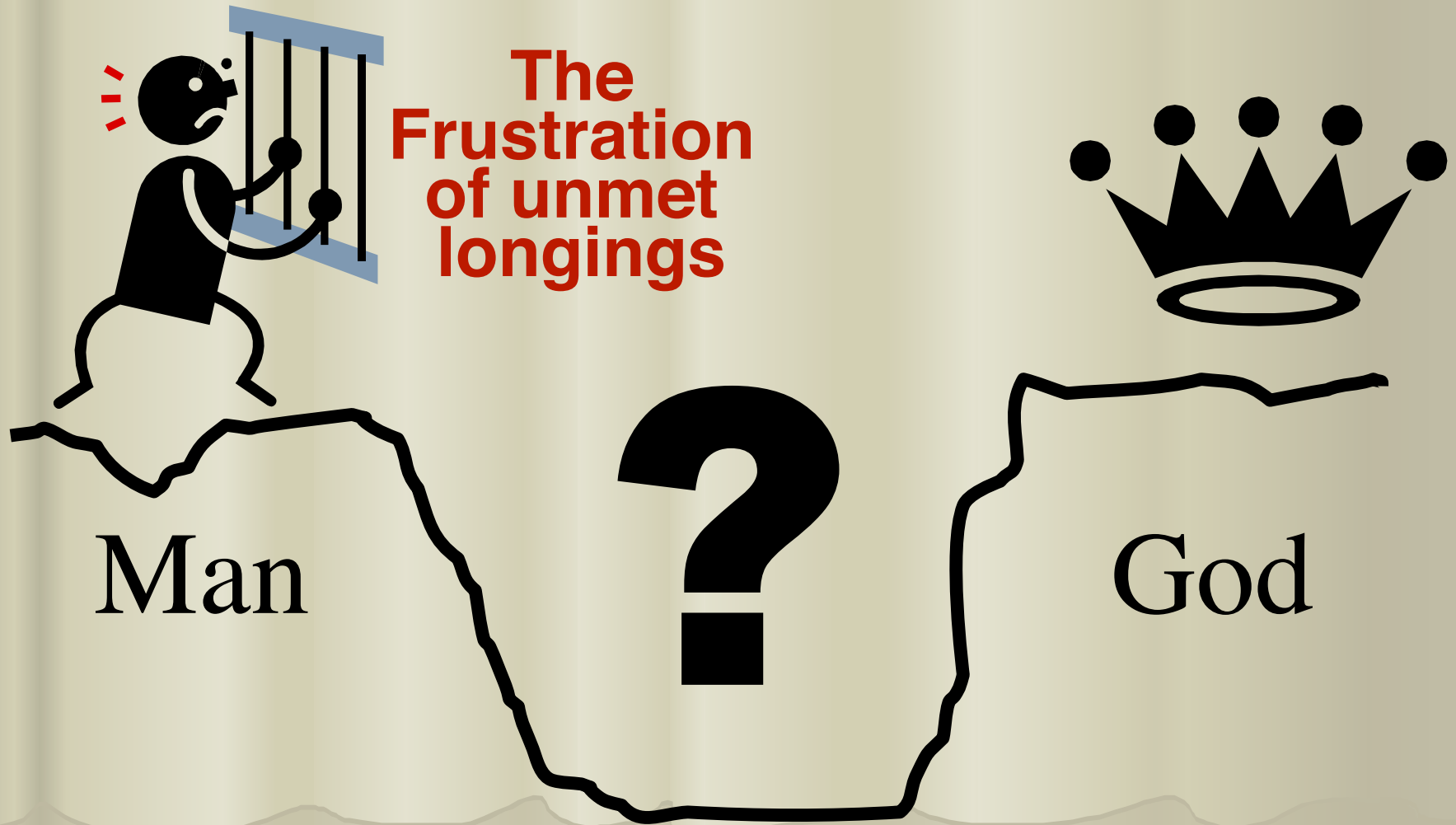
Righteousness - Point #4

- The righteousness generated in me by grace **is the fruit of the Holy Spirit.**

We will next look at some misconceptions of authentic faith.



Our common ground as humans



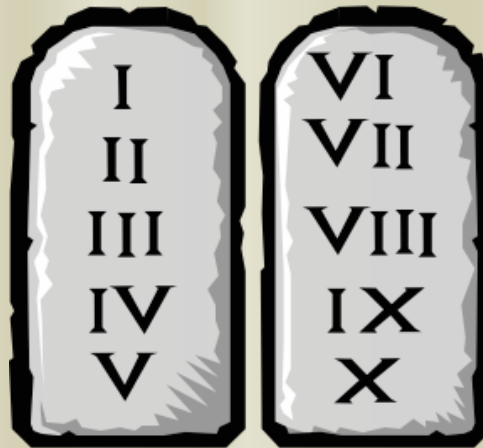
The purpose of the Commandments

**The Law
Is not a way
of salvation**



Man

**The Law
helps us
identify
the problem**



God

Jesus reconciles us to God

The Cross
makes
Jesus the
issue



The Gospel - some observations

- **It is about reconciliation with God through Christ (not through Moses).**
- **It is about positional truth (not experiential change).**

The Gospel - some observations

- It is about reconciliation with God through Christ (not through Moses).
- It is about positional truth (not experiential change).
- It is about imputed righteousness (not imparted righteousness).



Old Covenant

Prepare for ...

Old Testament

Gospels

New Covenant

Respond to ...

Acts

Epistles

Matt. 6:15

“but **if you do not forgive** men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.”

Eph. 4:32

“And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, **just as God in Christ also has forgiven** you.”

Ephesians 2

“⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus,”

Basics of the faith

The Gospel

1 Corinthians 15:1-5

Faith as conduct

Gospels

Christianity

Epistles

Faith as confession

of Jesus

The Gospel

of Paul

**The Good News is
about what God has
done in Christ !!!!!!!!!**

**not about what I must
do to get my life under
proper management.**

