

INTRODUCTION

In this session, we continue our broad overview of the major themes present in Romans. Before we continue, let's quickly review a few points from last week.

SESSION 2 REVIEW

1. What do we mean by saying that Jesus is "preeminent?" _____

2. Finish this statement: Salvation is _____

3. Explain the importance of Christian identity for believers in Rome. _____

MAJOR THEMES (cont'd.)

Righteousness (1:17; 3:21-26; 4:22; 10:1-10 [cf. 4-6])

Humanity cannot claim righteousness apart from Jesus Christ; the law and the prophets attest to this. However, humanity can claim righteousness because of Jesus Christ. This is the crux of the Gospel which exists because of Christ; the law and the prophets point to this.

- Righteousness is: _____

 - 1) A state of _____
 - 2) A way of _____
 - 3) Generates in God _____

Justification (3:24; 4:9-12, 25b-5:1-6, 8-11, 16-18; 8:1-2)

Righteousness and justification share similarities, because one (righteousness) reveals the other (justification), and both are products of God's grace. Still there are distinctions.

- Justification is: _____

Transformation: From Flesh to Spirit/New Life (6:6-14, 17-23; 7:4-6; 8:4-9, 29-30; 11:16-24; 12:1-2; 14:7-9)

Christianity presented the citizens of the Roman empire with a choice. Broadly speaking, they could continue as they had been, or they could embrace the transforming grace of God. This grace was available to them all as God's free gift. But, to really enjoy God's grace one must embrace the new life that God's grace affords.
