

SERMON NOTES - His Name is... RIGHTEOUSNESS

These notes are designed to be read along with the associated audio / video message

Using these notes and this message

There are 3 ways to watch or listen to this message, and various ways to use it:

Access to the Message	Use the Message		
	Play the Video	Preach it Yourself	Small Group Discussion
The full video message (around 26 minutes) can be watched on our website .	In larger settings. See guidance notes below .		✗
A shorter version (7-11 minutes) with small group discussion questions can also be found on our website.	In small groups. See Notes below .		
An audio podcast - on our app , soundcloud , or itunes	Personal listening		

Below you will find the following notes ...

[1 - A summary of this talk, and various ways and Ideas for how to use the themes](#)

[2 - How to Preach a Sunday Sermon](#)

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[4 - Small Group Bible Study Questions and Guidelines for this message](#)

[5 - Expanded Notes of the full Sermon](#)

1 - A summary of this talk, and various ways and Ideas for how to use the themes

Due to the nature of the video messages, a sermon preached on video/TV generally contains much more information than should be presented when preaching "live".

Video messages also don't include as many personal stories and anecdotes as would be shared in a personal sermon.

For this reason, when preaching this message "live", it is advisable for you to pick one or two of the main themes, ideas, or points below, and focus on them, adding your own stories and experiences, and your own personality.

THE BIG IDEA

Righteousness is essential and beautiful.

Psalm 11:7: "For the Lord is righteous, He loves righteousness; His countenance beholds the upright."

THE MAIN THEMES & SUB IDEAS EACH OF WHICH COULD BE DEVELOPED INTO A SERMON ON ITS OWN

You could use one or more of the following themes and ideas and craft a whole sermon out of any of these:

The talk centres on the compound names of God, particularly focusing on "Yahweh Tsidkenu" (The Lord Our Righteousness) and "Yahweh M'Kaddesh" (The Lord Who Sanctifies). The themes revolve around understanding God's righteousness and sanctification, both as theological concepts and practical realities in a believer's life. Here are the main themes and corresponding scripture references from the talk:

1. The Compound Names of God

- Yahweh Tsidkenu (The Lord Our Righteousness)
 - Jeremiah 23:5-6: "Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, that I will raise to David a branch of righteousness... Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."
- Yahweh M'Kaddesh (The Lord Who Sanctifies)
 - Exodus 31:13: "Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: 'Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you.'"

2. Understanding Righteousness

- Definition: Righteousness is acting and living the way God wants us to live.
- Psalm 11:7: "For the Lord is righteous, He loves righteousness; His countenance beholds the upright."

3. Illustration of Righteousness

- Analogy of a Ferrari: Righteousness illustrated as a beautiful, perfectly functioning Ferrari, which represents humans designed by God to live righteously but damaged by sin.

4. Three Aspects of Righteousness

- Legal Righteousness: God legally taking ownership of believers and paying for their sins.
- Positional Righteousness: Believers are separated from sin and placed in a new position in Christ.
- Behavioural Righteousness: The actual living out of righteous behavior.

Philippians 2:13: "For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."

5. Three Parts of Human Change

- Spirit: Made perfect and pure at conversion.
- Soul (Mind and Emotions): Gradually transformed over time.
- Body: Will be ultimately perfected in the resurrection.
- Hebrews 10:14: "For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified."

6. God's Desire for Relationship

- The Phrase "I will be their God and they will be My people":
 - Exodus 6:7: "I will take you as My people, and I will be your God."
 - Leviticus 26:12: "I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."
 - Numerous other verses from Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, and the New Testament emphasise God's desire for a close relationship with His people.

7. Salvation and Righteousness

- Ephesians 2:8-10: "For by grace you have been saved through faith... For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works."
- 2 Corinthians 5:21: "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

8. Practical Application

- Running into the Name of the Lord: Finding refuge and identity in God's righteousness.
- Galatians 5: Warning against relying on self-righteousness and the law for salvation.

9. Christian Living

- Romans 3:10, 20-22: The universal need for God's righteousness and the futility of trying to achieve it by the law.
- Ongoing Transformation: Continual cooperation with God in the sanctification process.

Conclusion

- Invitation to Prayer: A call to embrace God's righteousness and participate in the process of sanctification.
- Hebrews 10:14: Emphasis on Christ's sacrifice making believers perfect while they are being sanctified.

By focusing on these key themes and scriptures, the talk emphasises the completeness of God's provision for righteousness and sanctification, encouraging believers to trust in God's work and cooperate with Him in their spiritual growth.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS BASED ON THIS TALK

1. Personal Reflection on Righteousness:
 - What does the concept of righteousness mean to you personally? How have you experienced God's righteousness in your own life?
 - Follow-up: Can you share a time when you felt particularly aware of God's grace and righteousness in a challenging situation?
2. Understanding and Applying God's Righteousness:
 - In what ways do you see God working to make you more righteous in your daily life? How do you cooperate with Him in this process?

- Follow-up: What practical steps can we take to align our behavior more closely with God's standards of righteousness?

3. Transformation and Sanctification:

- How do you understand the difference between being legally declared righteous and the process of sanctification? How do both aspects manifest in your spiritual journey?
- Follow-up: Can you share any specific practices or habits that have helped you grow in sanctification?

4. Community and Accountability:

- How can our small group support each other in becoming more righteous and sanctified? What role does community play in our spiritual transformation?
- Follow-up: Are there any specific areas in which you would like prayer or accountability to help you grow in righteousness?

2 - How to Preach a Sunday Sermon

The SUNDAY sermon is normally not an in depth teaching time (this is usually done in other times and settings). Usually the Sunday Sermon achieves 3 main goals:

- It attracts non believers,
- It inspires believers and
- It educates everyone.

A sermon should not be too long (30 minutes is a good maximum time).

The mood and tone is important as people will often remember a FEELING more than information. People must sense and feel the love, joy and excitement of Jesus and the Christian life along with being motivated by GRACE, rather than legalism, guilt or religion.

A 4-Point Checklist for Sermon Preparation ...

- 1) You** must be able to articulate in your own mind what the talk's one big message is. You should be able to state this in one sentence before you give your talk, and this would also work well as the introductory sentence of your talk..

**1 BIG
IDEA**

It should be a compelling and motivating idea that is captivating and important, and it must have HELPED YOU in your life. If it is real for you, it will be real to those who hear you. As a general guideline, this idea should inspire people to faith, hope and action, and it is based on joy rather than on legalism or duty.

- 2) To** back up and support your big idea, you should have around 3 main points which are helpful and along the same theme. People should be able to follow your logical progression and see how the three points back up the main idea. You can have more than three points if you are making the same point from several different angles OR if you are using several different Bible verses to support the same idea.

3
— —
SUPPORTING
Points

- 3) For** each point you make, you should try to have one **story** or a **personal example** that illustrates what you are saying. They give a window to your sermon, allowing light to shine in, and bringing your points to life. Without illustrations, your sermon could feel like it's all "facts". Illustrations and stories engage people's imagination and emotions, and can show how the truths you are speaking of have impacted and affected you in a personal way.

ILLUSTRATIONS
&
STORIES

- 4) There** should be a practical way that people can apply what you have said – it should change people's lives, and you should conclude with this application. There is a **general** life application – "how will I live differently going forward?" – and there is also an **immediate** application – "what is God saying to me right NOW?" Encourage people to "do business with God" right then and there and to make decisions or commitments if necessary. This "life application" can be a good conclusion to your talk, OR the main idea that you started with can also be helpful as a concluding summary.

PRACTICAL
APPLICATION
AND SUMMARY

3 - How to lead a Small Group

Remember that the aim of the small group is to foster discussion and community, rather than for the leader or one individual to preach to everyone.

1 - Often an **Icebreaker question** is a great way to start discussion. You could ask a question like those below:

- What were the highs or lows of your week?
- What is your earliest memory?
- If you had to describe yourself as one animal, what would it be and why?
- What is your favourite type of holiday destination?

2 - Next, **read the passage**. You can ask various people in the group to help by each reading a portion of the passage.

3 - These are the **main questions** to ask to understand the passage:

- What is the main message of this talk / passage?
Allow discussion and even diverging from the main topic if it is helpful.
- What did you find particularly helpful or challenging?
- What did you not fully understand?
- What can we do **PRACTICALLY** in response to this teaching?

4 - Close by offering **prayer** for each person.

- Ask, "how can we pray for you / each other now?"
- Ask each person to pray or you, as leader, pray for each person's need

The blessing and opportunity in Small Groups is the possibility for...

- Each person to contribute and/or ask questions,
- People to pray for each other and to ask for prayer,
- People to learn to use and grow in their gifts,
- Community, friendship and intimacy in relationships.

God Bless you in this very important ministry.

4 - Small Group Bible Study Questions and Guidelines for this message

OUTLINE OF THE SHORT VIDEO MESSAGE

Names of God:

- Yahweh Tsidkenu (The Lord Our Righteousness) & Yahweh M'Kaddesh (The Lord Who Sanctifies You):

Understanding Righteousness:

- Righteousness is living as God intends.
- Psalm 11:7 states that God loves righteousness and engages with the upright.

Illustration of Righteousness:

- Compares a perfectly made Ferrari to human beings:
 - Original State: Beautiful, functional, and performing as intended.
 - Corrupted State: Stolen, misused, damaged, and no longer functioning as intended.
 - Restoration: The creator rescues, legally clears, and restores the Ferrari, symbolising God's redemption and sanctification of humans.

Three Parts of Righteousness:

1. Legal Righteousness: God legally takes ownership, clearing all debts and penalties.
2. Positional Righteousness: God separates us from negative influences, positioning us in a place of purity.
3. Behavioural Righteousness: God works on us to restore our behavior and being to its intended state.

Transformation Process:

- Spiritual Perfection: Our spirits are made pure and perfect.
- Progressive Sanctification: Over time, our emotions, mind, and behaviour are transformed to align with God's will.

Conclusion:

- Emphasises the importance of running into God's name for righteousness and sanctification.
- Encourages cooperation with God's transformative work in our lives, motivated by gratitude, not to earn favour.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS ON THIS SHORT VIDEO

1. How does the story of the Ferrari in the talk help you understand Righteousness?
2. In what ways can we actively cooperate with God in the process of sanctification and transformation in our daily lives?
3. What if we fail? (look up 1 Jn 1:9). Is there any limit to how many times we can ask for forgiveness?
4. Spend some time thanking God and praying specifically for each person's needs.

5 - Expanded Notes of the full Sermon

INTRO - God Has given us His name

He revealed His name to Moses:

Exo 3:13-15 NKJV - "13 Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"

14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.' " 15 Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD ["YAHWEH" "YHWH"] God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations."

The benefits of knowing His name

Pro 18:10 NKJV - "10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe (*set on high*)."

Jhn 14:14 NKJV - "14 "If you ask anything in My name, I will do it."

Revelation 3:12 NKJV — "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name. (cf Rev 2:17 "a white stone, and ...a new name which no one else knows ")

THE LORD OUR **RIGHTEOUSNESS** (& THE LORD WHO SANCTIFIES YOU)

Jer 23:5-6 NKJV - "5 "Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgement and righteousness in the earth. 6 In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS." (YAHWEH TSIDKENU)

Exo 31:13 NKJV - "13 "Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: 'Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you.'" JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **MEKODDISHKEM** (THE LORD WHO **SANCTIFIES** YOU)

GOD IS RIGHTEOUS & HE DESIGNED US TO LIVE THAT WAY

Psa 11:7 NKJV - "7 For the LORD is righteous, He loves righteousness; His countenance beholds the upright."

There is a blueprint and design of the way we should live, and it is necessary for us for our own wellbeing, but also, and more importantly, for us to have a relationship with God.

AN ILLUSTRATION

A Ferrari that a creator makes. It is beautiful when made.

It gets stolen, mistreated and damaged.

The creator buys it back and then fixes it up.

This illustrates the 3 parts of righteousness:

THE 3 PARTS TO RIGHTEOUSNESS:

- POSITIONALLY. Being SEPARATE, CLEAN. set apart, not "common: or of this world, dedicated to God, free from past and current contamination
- LEGALLY. Being NOT GUILTY. LEGALLY free from PUNISHMENT for past sins.
- ACTUALLY. Being GOOD. Living right. Wanting right.

WE CAN'T DO THIS ON OUR OWN, BUT GOD HAS MADE A WAY:

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Psa 5:4 NKJV - "4 For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, Nor shall evil dwell with You."

Hab 1:13 NIV - "13 Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrongdoing."

Psa 15:1-5 (NKJV) 1 LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? 2 He who walks uprightly, And works righteousness, And speaks the truth in his heart; 3 He [who] does not backbite with his tongue, Nor does evil to his neighbour, Nor does he take up a reproach against his friend; 4 In whose eyes a vile person is despised, But he honours those who fear the LORD; He who swears to his own hurt and does not change; 5 He who does not put out his money at usury, Nor does he take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

Eph 2:8-10 NIV - "8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Phi 2:13 NKJV - "13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."

GOD'S DESIRE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A RELATIONSHIP WITH A HOLY PEOPLE:

Exo 6:7 NKJV - "7 'I will take you as My people, and I will be your God. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians."

Lev 26:12 NKJV - "12 I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."

Jer 7:23 NKJV - "23 "But this is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.'"

Jer 11:4 NKJV - "4 "which I commanded your fathers in the day I brought them out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, 'Obey My voice, and do according to all that I command you; so shall you be My people, and I will be your God,'"

Jer 24:7 NKJV - "7 'Then I will give them a heart to know Me, that I am the LORD; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God, for they shall return to Me with their whole heart."

Jer 30:22 NKJV - "22 'You shall be My people, And I will be your God.' ""

Jer 31:33 NKJV - "33 "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

Eze 11:20 NKJV - "20 "that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God."

Eze 14:11 NKJV - "11 "that the house of Israel may no longer stray from Me, nor be profaned anymore with all their transgressions, but that they may be My people and I may be their God," says the Lord GOD.' ""

Eze 36:28 NKJV - "28 "Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God."

Eze 37:23 NKJV - "23 "They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. Then they shall be My people, and I will be their God. ...

Eze 37:27 "My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

Hos 2:23 NKJV - "23 Then I will sow her for Myself in the earth, And I will have mercy on her who had not obtained mercy; Then I will say to those who were not My people, 'You are My people!' And they shall say, 'You are my God!' ""

Zec 8:8 NKJV - "8 I will bring them back, And they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. They shall be My people And I will be their God, In truth and righteousness."

Zec 13:9 NKJV - "9 I will bring the one-third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, 'This is My people'; And each one will say, 'The LORD is my God.' ""

2Co 6:16 NKJV - "16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.""

Heb 8:10 NKJV - "10 "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

Rev 21:1-3 NKJV - "1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God."

IF WE TRY TO RELY IN OUR OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS WE ARE ALIENATED FROM GOD'S SALVATION:

Gal 5:4 NKJV - "4 You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace."

Gal 5:2 NKJV - "2 Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing."

Isa 64:6 NKJV - "6 But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousneses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away."

IF THERE IS NO CHANGE IN OUR BEHAVIOUR WE ARE PROBABLY DELUDING OURSELVES AND WE AREN'T REALLY SAVED:

1Jo 3:9 ESV - "9 No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God."

GOD HAS DONE IT - RUN INTO HIS NAME - THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS - IT IS ENOUGH:

Rom 3:10-12, 20-25 NKJV - "10 As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one." ... 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. 21 But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,"

2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV — For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Heb 10:14 NIV — For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

IS GOD DRAWING YOU TODAY?

Jhn 6:44 NKJV - "44 "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day."

THE NAMES OF GOD

1. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **JIREH** (THE LORD WILL **PROVIDE**) Gen 22:14.
 2. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **RAPHA** (THE LORD WHO **HEALS**) Exd 15:26.
 3. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **NISSI** (THE LORD MY **BANNER**) Exd 17:15. Moses, recognizing that the Lord was Israel's banner under which they defeated the Amalekites, builds an altar named Jehovah-Nissi (the Lord our Banner).
 4. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **MEKODDISHKEM** (THE LORD WHO **SANCTIFIES** YOU) Exd 31:13. Lev 20:8
 5. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **SHALOM** (THE LORD IS **PEACE**) Jdg 6:24. the name of an altar built by Gideon in Ophrah.
 6. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **SABAOTH** (THE LORD **OF HOSTS**) over 285 References of the name Jehovah Sabaoth in the Old Testament.
 7. JEHOVAH(YAHWEH)-**RAAH** (THE LORD MY **SHEPHERD**) Psalm 23.
 8. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **TSIDKENU** (THE LORD OUR **RIGHTEOUSNESS**) Jer 23:6; Jer 33:16
 9. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **SHAMMAH** (THE LORD IS **THERE**) Ezekiel 48:35.
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