

WHO I AM

A STUDY OF THE NAMES OF GOD

#11: JEHOVAH-TSIDKENU: THE GOD WHO IS MY RIGHTEOUSNESS

JIM HINTON

I. WHY DO I FEEL SO GUILTY?

Because deep down I know that I am not “right” and cannot make myself right

But no, all have turned away; all have become corrupt. No one does good, not a single one!
Psalm 14:3 (NLT)

We are all infected and impure with sin. When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags.
Isaiah 64:6 (NLT)

How then can a man be righteous before God? How can one born of woman be pure?
Job 25:4 (NIV)

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.
Romans 3:23 (NLT)

For the wages of sin is death
Romans 6:23 (NLT)

II. WHO IS JEHOVAH-TSIDKENU?

This iname of God combines “Yahweh” – the self-existent or eternal one with “Tsidkenu” which means “righteousness”. But, there is not one English word that accurately translates it. Because Tsidkenu can also mean “straight”, “to make right”, “justice” and “to justify” or “declare innocent”.

1. God is righteousness

He is the Rock; his deeds are perfect. Everything he does is just and fair. He is a faithful God who does no wrong; how just and upright he is!
Deuteronomy 32:4 (NLT)

2. God is the one who makes me righteous

I am overwhelmed with joy in the LORD my God! For he has dressed me with the clothing of salvation and draped me in a robe of righteousness. I am like a bridegroom in his wedding suit or a bride with her jewels.
Isaiah 61:10 (NLT)

III. WHERE DOES THIS NAME OF GOD ORIGINATE FROM? - JEREMIAH 23:1-6

1. When Jeremiah ministered God's people were in a colossal mess!

Even so, the LORD was very angry with Judah because of all the wicked things Manasseh had done to provoke him. For the LORD said, "I will also banish Judah from my presence just as I have banished Israel. And I will reject my chosen city of Jerusalem and the Temple where my name was to be honored."

2 Kings 23:26-27 (NLT)

But the people mocked these messengers of God and despised their words. They scoffed at the prophets until the LORD's anger could no longer be restrained and nothing could be done.

2 Chronicles 36:16-17 (NLT)

2. However, God promised that a day would come when He would establish a spiritual and eternal kingdom with a righteous ruler

If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent us an educator;
If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist;
If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent us an economist;
If our greatest need had been pleasure, God would have sent us an entertainer;
But our greatest need was forgiveness, so God sent us a Savior.

Author Unknown

IV. HOW CAN I EXPERIENCE JESUS AS MY JEHOVAH-TSIDKENU? - ISAIAH 53:4-11

The righteousness that Jehovah-Tsidkenu would ultimately be and provide came through the sinless life, sacrificial death, and supernatural conquering of death of the Messiah – Jesus Christ.

1. Jesus is now my righteousness

You rejected this holy, righteous one and instead demanded the release of a murderer. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. And we are witnesses of this fact!

Acts 3:14-15 (NLT)

But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy."

Hebrews 1:8-9 (NLT)

2. Jesus makes me righteous (right with God)

God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin.

1 Corinthians 1:30 (NLT)

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)

3. Jesus does for me what I cannot do for myself

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23 (NLT)

And the result of God's gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man's sin. For Adam's sin led to condemnation, but God's free gift leads to our being made right with God, even though we are guilty of many sins. For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:16-17 (NLT)

IT

By Chip Heim

They laugh and smile and talk and embrace
and I do too.

But sometimes my smile covers a tear.

And no one knows.

Right now my tear is from an it.

I'm sorry, so very sorry I did it.

I feel like a broken record and the skip
is the it that never completely goes away.

What would they think if they knew my it?

Would the laughs vanish?

The smiles disappear?

Would the talk be hurled at me?

The embrace taken back?

Do they have an it?

What do they do with it?

Why do we act for each other
when there is no play?

There is only life.

And that life includes a lot of it.

The point is not to celebrate it
but only to admit to it.

I am told Jesus knows everything
which means he know about it.

And yet he whispers

in words too good to be true

I died for you -- don't worry about it.