

## 2 kinds of righteousness – only one enters Heaven – which do I have?

Matt 5:20 (Jesus) **For I say to you, that unless your righteousness (that's one possible kind) exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees (that's the other kind), **you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.****

What kind of righteousness did the Pharisees have? The same kind that many well intentioned but deceived Christians have. What's that? This righteousness sees the Bible as a rule book and tries the best it humanly can to keep some of the rules. God calls this our own righteousness and Jesus said this kind won't get us into heaven. The only righteousness that enters heaven is the other kind, the righteousness of God:

Phil 3:9 **And be found in Christ, not having my own righteousness, which is from (trying to keep) the law (God's written words), but that which is through the faith of Christ (God's words made living by His Spirit which He individually communicates to a person), the righteousness which is of God by faith; KJV**

God calls seeing the Bible the Old Covenant way, as rules, the ministry of death and condemnation. But to see the Bible the New Covenant way, as words He inspires and then speaks, He calls that the ministry of the Spirit and the ministry of righteousness.

2 Cor 3:7-8 **If the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones** (the written Word on the pages of our Bibles) **was glorious...the ministry of the Spirit** (Bible words God speaks to us directly or by another) **will be more glorious.**

9 **If the ministry of condemnation** (the dead letter of scripture) **had glory, the ministry of righteousness** (the word spoken by the Holy Spirit) **excels...in glory.**

The only righteousness that enters heaven is the righteousness of God; What's that?

It is God's own righteousness. It is therefore not something He can impart to a person as a separate attribute. No, to have His righteousness I must have and be living in, Him:

Jer 33:16 **...THE LORD (Himself is) OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.** (Jehovah Tsidkenu)

Isa 54:17 **...Their righteousness is of Me (it's My own), says the LORD.** KJV

2 Cor 5:21 **For God made Christ who knew no sin to be sin for us, so that we could be made the righteousness of God** (His own righteousness becoming ours, as He becomes ours, that is, when we are living) **in Him.** (We sing a song that reflects this: "You are all my righteousness, I stand complete in You").

How do I receive God's righteousness – by receiving Him – How, by His words and Spirit  
When we allow God to reveal to our spirits, that is, to our hearts, that under the New Covenant the words of the Bible are always intended to be lifted off the page by His Spirit and spoken to us, or spoken to us through a person, by His Spirit; Then we will begin to see that those specific words now contain the very life and nature of Christ, meaning the very life and nature of God. As we receive living words into our spirits, by believing them, the nature of, the righteousness of God Himself, God, is imparted to us.

That is why in 2 Co 3:9 above **the New Covenant is called “the Ministry of (meaning the impartation to us of God’s) righteousness”**. Each living word is God, and hence His righteousness, and therefore this righteousness of God can only be received by faith, that is, a heart that believes them. That’s why God says Christ, Who, when we know Him after the Spirit as the living words of God, Christ is made unto us righteousness.

1 Cor 1:30 **Of God are you in Christ Jesus who of God (as living words) is made unto us (Himself, His own very nature of)...righteousness...** KJV

2 Peter 1:4 **By which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises (God’s living words), that by these you may be partakers of the divine nature (God’s own nature which includes His righteousness)...**

2 Tim 3:16 **All Scripture given by inspiration of God (spoken to us by His spirit) is profitable for...instruction in (and impartation of God’s) righteousness,**

God contrasts His righteousness with sin, hence to remain sin free I must live in Him

Rom 6:18 **Having been set free from sin you became slaves of righteousness.**

1 Jo 3:5-6 **You know that Christ was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. Whoever lives in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him (from the moment that we died to Him as a result of our sin – and stay dead until we repent of our sin, are forgiven by God, and hence revived, brought back to life again, and made righteous once more).**

Since God doesn’t impart righteousness apart from Himself, it’s true of all His attributes

Gal 5:22 **The fruit of the Holy Spirit (when we are living in the Spirit, in Christ, in God) is love (God’s own), joy (of the Lord), peace (of God), patience (of Christ), kindness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control (all the nature of God, which become mine as I live in and am One with Him. These increase as I receive more of His nature as His Spirit brings me more of His living words and I believe them).**

I am only righteous with God’s righteousness when I’m living in God, living in Christ. To remain living in God means I continue to believe the words of righteousness He brings me and I obey the leading of His righteous Spirit. Happily, if I’m willing to obey Him, His own Holy Spirit causes me to obey Him. God says He occupies heaven, so to be in Heaven is to be in God. Only the righteous can be in God since He has no sin. To be permanently righteous I must be permanently one with God, living permanently in Christ, by faith and obedience. Which if I’m willing to, God by His spirit will cause me to.

Rom 10:10 **...We believe (God’s words) unto (His) righteousness (and stay in God).**

Rom 6:16 **...We obey (God’s Spirit) unto (His) righteousness (and remain in Christ).**

Ezek 36:27 **I will put My Spirit within you (if you believe this promise) and cause you to walk in My living words, and you will keep My living words and do them.**

Rom 14:17 **The kingdom of God...is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.**