

Rom 3:21-26 Theological themes

Principles:

Salvation has come from God

It is not based on doing good & earning salvation

It is not revealed in law¹

It was promised beforehand

The “good” points to this salvation though we cannot live up to the “good”

God’s way of salvation is through faith in Jesus

This way of salvation is the same for all people

All people are in the same boat with God

All have sinned

All presently fall short of God’s glory

All are saved in the same way (those who are saved)

All are justified freely by grace (those who are justified)

Justification is made possible by God’s work in Christ

God made Jesus a propitiation- offering to satisfy justice and wrath

Experienced by faith and through His blood

Two purposes for this

1. to show His righteousness

Even though He let some sins in the past go unpunished, the cross shows that they were dealt with in a just way.

No one can question His justice in giving grace then, or in saving people now who don’t deserve salvation.

2. To actually be just in satisfying justice and save undeserving people through faith- having cake and eating it too

Cf. Ladd, p. 432 “He is just and yet the justifier...”

Justice and grace, righteousness and mercy, cf. Ps 85:10

¹ cf. temporal contrast between the old and new ‘but now’ cf. Carson, “Atonement in Romans 3:21-26” in Hill, The Glory of the Atonement,