



# Major Bible Themes

52 VITAL DOCTRINES OF THE SCRIPTURE  
SIMPLIFIED AND EXPLAINED

Lewis Sperry Chafer

REVISED BY

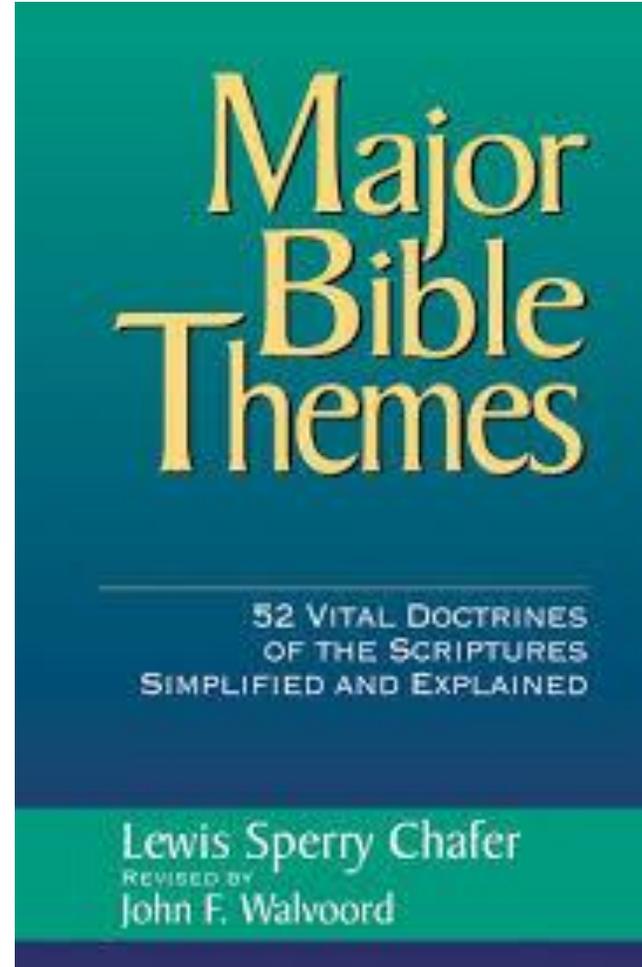
John F. Walvoord

## Chapter Thirty

# Four Aspects of Righteousness

# Step # One Chapter Thirty- Four Aspects of Righteousness

## Find the Outline



# Chapter Thirty- Four Aspects of Righteousness

A. God is Righteous

B. The Self Righteousness of Man

C. The imputed Righteousness of God

D. Righteousness Imputed by the Spirit

# MBT Chapter Thirty Outline

## A. **God** is Righteous

A vital difference between God and man which Scripture emphasizes is that God is righteous , while the fundamental charge against man as recorded in Romans 3:10 is that "there is none righteous, no, not one." So also, one of the glories of divine grace is the fact that a perfect righteousness, likened to a spotless wedding garment, has been provided and is freely bestowed upon all who believe

This righteousness of God is unchanging and unchangeable. He is infinitely righteous in His own being and infinitely righteous in all His ways.

**Understand  
It**



**Understand  
It**



## **MBT Chapter Thirty Outline**

God is righteous in His being. It is impossible for Him to deviate from His righteousness by so much as the "shadow of turning" He cannot look on sin with the least degree of allowance. Therefore, since all men are sinners both by nature and by practice, the divine judgment has come upon all men unto condemnation. The acceptance of this truth is vital to any right understanding of the gospel of divine grace.

It is not unusual for men to conceive of God as a righteous being; but they often fail to recognize the fact that, when He undertakes to save the sinful, the righteousness of God is not and cannot be diminished. He became the Just Justifier

# MBT Chapter Thirty Outline

## B. The **Self Righteousness** of Man

**Understand  
It**



In the sight of God, the righteousness of man is as "filthy rags". Though the sinful estate of man is constantly declared throughout Scripture, men have erected human standards of righteousness whereby he compares himself with himself but these have no part of the basis with which he must be judged before God.

# MBT Chapter Thirty Outline

## C. The imputed Righteousness of God

1. **The fact of imputation** is brought out in the imputing of Adam's sin to the human race with the effect that all men are considered sinners by God. The sin of man was imputed to Christ when He became the sin offering for the whole world. So also, the righteousness of God is imputed to all who believe. By this divine provision those who are saved are said to have been "made" the righteousness of God. Obviously this imputed righteousness is not something accomplished by man. Being the righteousness of God, it is not increased by the goodness of the one to whom it is imputed, nor is it decreased by his badness.

**Understand  
It**



## Understand It



# MBT Chapter Thirty Outline

2. **The results of imputation** are seen in that the righteousness of God is imputed to the believer on the basis of the fact that the believer is, through the baptism of the Spirit, in Christ. Through that vital union to Christ by the Spirit, the believer becomes related to Christ as a member in His body and as a branch in the True Vine.

Because of the reality of this union, God sees the believer as a living part of His own Son. He therefore loves him as He loves His Son, He accepts him as He accepts His own Son, and He accounts him to be what His own Son is -the righteousness of God.

Christ is the righteousness of God, therefore those who are saved are made the righteousness of God by being in Him. They are complete in Him and perfected forever

# MBT Chapter Thirty Outline

## 3. Illustrations of imputation .

A. Garments of skin which necessitated the shedding of blood were divinely provided for Adam and Eve

B. A righteous standing was imputed to Abraham because he believed God

C. The priests of old were clothed with righteousness so the believer is robed in the wedding garment of the righteousness of God and in that garment he will appear in glory

D. The attitude of the Apostle Paul toward Philemon is an illustration both of imputed merit and imputed demerit.

**Understand  
It**



**Understand  
It**



## **MBT Chapter Thirty Outline**

**4. Imputation- the standing and not the state.** There is, then, a righteousness from God, apart from all human works, which is unto and upon all who believe. It is the eternal standing of all who are saved. In their daily life, or state, they are far from perfect, and in this aspect of their relation to God they are "to grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ"

**5. Imputed righteousness is the ground of Justification.** According to the New Testament usage, the words "righteousness" and "justify" are from the same root. God declares the one justified forever whom He sees in Christ. It is an equitable decree since the justified one is clothed in the righteousness of God.

# MBT Chapter Thirty Outline

## Understand It



Justification is not a fiction or a state of feeling; it is rather an immutable reckoning in the mind of God. Like imputed righteousness, justification is by faith (Rom. 5:1), through grace (Titus 3:4-7), and made possible through the death and resurrection of Christ (Rom. 3:24; 4:25). It is abiding and unchangeable since it rests only on the merit of the eternal Son of God.

Justification is more than forgiveness, since forgiveness is the cancellation of sin while justification is the imputing of righteousness. Forgiveness is negative (the removal of condemnation), while justification is positive (the bestowing of the merit and standing of Christ).

# MBT Chapter Thirty Outline

## Understand It



James, writing of a justification by works (2:14-26), has in view the believer's standing before men; Paul writing of justification by faith (Rom. 5:1), has in view the believer's standing before God. Abraham was justified before men in that he proved his faith by his works (James 2:21); likewise he was justified by faith before God on the ground of imputed righteousness (James 2:23).

# MBT Chapter Thirty Outline

## D. Righteousness Imputed by the Spirit

### Understand

It



When filled with the Spirit, the child of God will produce the righteous works of the "fruit of the Spirit" and will manifest the gifts for service which are by the Spirit. These results are distinctly said to be due to the immediate working of the Spirit in and through the believer. It is not a manner of life which is produced by the believer; it is rather a manner of life which is produced through him by the Spirit.

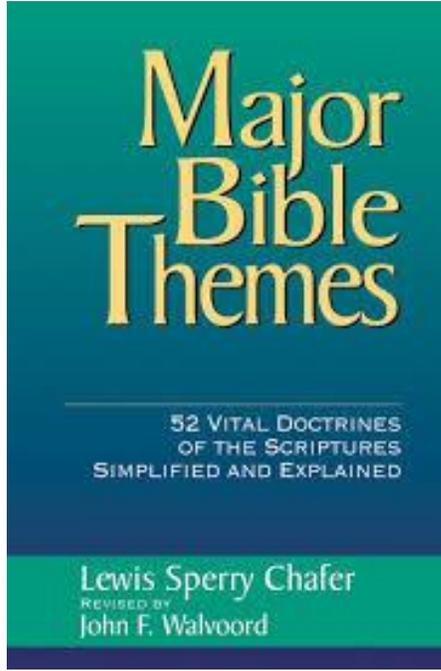
# MBT Chapter Thirty Outline

## Understand It



To those who "walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit," the righteousness of the law, which in this case means no less than the realization of the whole will of God for the believer, is **fulfilled in** them. It could never be fulfilled **by them**. When thus wrought by the Spirit, it is none other than a life which is the imparted righteousness of God.

# The next principle is to build a physical file cabinet



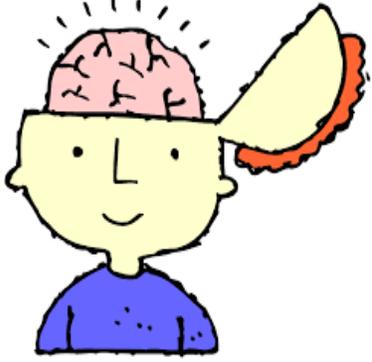
Mike Borland

What does the Bible teach about the four aspects of righteousness

## Chapter 30- Four Aspects Of Righteousness

Using Major Bible Themes write a study explaining the Four aspects of Righteousness

# Memorize it



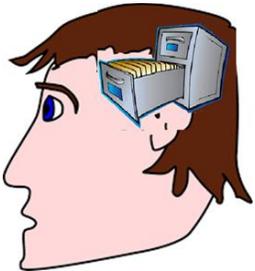
## Chapter Thirty- Four Aspects of Righteousness

A. God is Righteous

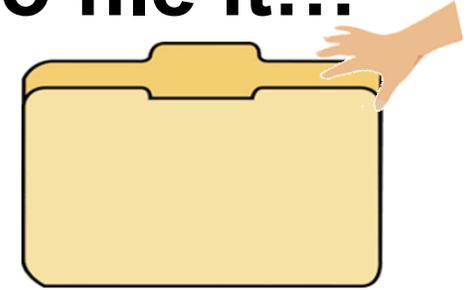
B. The Self Righteousness of Man

C. The imputed Righteousness of God

D. Righteousness Imputed by the Spirit



To file it...



Write it Down



Underline Main  
Words...



## Chapter Thirty- Four Aspects of Righteousness

A. God is Righteous

B. The Self Righteousness of Man

C. The imputed Righteousness of God

D. Righteousness Imputed by the Spirit

# Step # Two

**Read the Section and look up the passages**



## Chapter Thirty- Four Aspects of Righteousness

### A. God is Righteous

#### God is righteous

**1Jn 1:5** *This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that **God is light**, and in him is no darkness at all.*

#### God is righteous in His being

**Jas 1:17** *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is **no variableness, neither shadow of turning.***

#### Christ's Sacrifice showed God's righteousness.

**Rom 3:25** *Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, **to declare his righteousness** for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;*

## **Man is not righteous**

*Romans 3:10 "there is **none righteous**, no, not one."*

## **Righteousness is bestowed upon all who believe**

**Rom 3:22** *Even the righteousness of God which is **by faith of Jesus Christ** unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:*

**God devised a plan where He could be Just and the Justifier**

**Rom 3:26** *To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he **might be just, and the justifier** of him which believeth in Jesus.*

**Joh 3:18** *He that believeth on him is **not condemned**: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*

**Rom 8:1** *There is therefore now **no condemnation** to them which are in Christ Jesus,*

## B. The **Self Righteousness** of Man

### **No righteousness**

**Isa 64:6** *But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness's are as **filthy rags**; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.*

### **Man does not submit to God's Righteousness**

**Rom 10:3** *For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not **submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.***

## Man compares themselves by themselves

**2Co 10:12** *For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but **they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.***

## Man condemned by the unalterable righteousness of God

**Rom 3:23** *For all have sinned, and come **short of the glory of God;***

## C. The **imputed Righteousness** of God

### 1. **The fact of imputation**

Imputing of Adam's sin to the human race

**Rom 5:12** *Wherefore, as by **one man sin entered** into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that **all have sinned**:*

Sin of man was imputed to Christ

**2Co 5:21** *For **he hath made him to be sin for us**, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*

**1Jn 2:2** *And he is the **propitiation for our sins**: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.*

**The saved are said to have been "made" the righteousness of God**

**1Co 1:30** *But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is **made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:***

**Apart from all self works or deeds of law observance**

**Rom 3:21** *But now the righteousness of God **without the law** is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets*

## **2. The results of imputation**

**Because of the reality of this union, God sees the believer as a living part of His own Son**

**1Co 12:13** *For by one Spirit are we all **baptized into one body***

**Joh 15:4** *Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.*

**He therefore loves him as He loves His Son**

**Joh 17:23** *I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.*

## **With Him a spiritual house**

**1Pe 2:5** Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a **spiritual house**, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

## **He accepts him as He accepts His own Son**

**Eph 1:6** *To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us **accepted in the beloved.***

He accounts him to be what His own Son is the righteousness of God  
**1Co 1:30** *But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is **made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:***

**Rom 3:22** *Even the righteousness of God which is **by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe:** for there is no difference:*

Those who are saved are made the righteousness of God by being in Him

**2Co 5:21** *For **he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.***

**Perfected forever**

**Heb 10:14** *For by one offering he hath **perfected for ever them that are sanctified.***

### **3. Illustrations of imputation .**

A. Garments of skin which necessitated the shedding of blood were divinely provided for Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:21).

B. A righteous standing was imputed to Abraham because he believed God

**Gen 15:6** *And he believed in the LORD; and he **counted it to him for righteousness.***

C. The priests of old were clothed with righteousness so the believer is robed in the wedding garment of the righteousness of God.

**Psa 132:9** *Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy.*

D. The attitude of the Apostle Paul toward Philemon is an illustration both of imputed merit and imputed demerit.

**Phm 1:17-18** *If thou count me therefore a partner, **receive him as myself.** If he hath wronged thee, or owes thee ought, **put that on mine account;***

#### **4. Imputation- the standing and not the state.**

Christians are exhorted to grow

**2 Pet. 3:18** ... grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Righteousness from God, apart from all human works

**Rom 3:22** *Even the righteousness of God which is **by faith of Jesus Christ** unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:*

## 5. Imputed righteousness is the ground of Justification.

Possible through the death and resurrection of Christ

**Rom 4:25** *Who was delivered for our offences, and was **raised again for our justification.***

Justification through grace

**Tit 3:7** *That being **justified by his grace**, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*

Justification is by faith

**Rom 5:1** *Therefore being **justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*

James, writing of a justification by works has in view the believer's standing before men

**Jas 2:17** *Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, **being alone.***

Abraham was justified before men in that he proved his faith by his works

**Jas 2:23-24** *And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham **believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness:** and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that **by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.***

Abraham was also justified by faith before God on the ground of imputed righteousness

**Gen 15:6** *And he believed in the LORD; and he **counted it to him for righteousness.***

Paul writing of justification by faith has in view the believer's standing before God.

**Rom 5:1** *Therefore being **justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*

## D. Righteousness **Imputed** by the **Spirit**

When filled with the Spirit, the child of God will produce the righteous works

*Rom 8:4 That the righteousness of the law might be **fulfilled in us**, who walk not after the flesh, but **after the Spirit**.*

When filled with the Spirit he will produce the "fruit of the Spirit"

**Gal 5:22-23** *But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

When filled with the Spirit will manifest the gifts for service which are by the Spirit

**1Co 12:4** *Now there are **diversities of gifts**, but the same Spirit.*

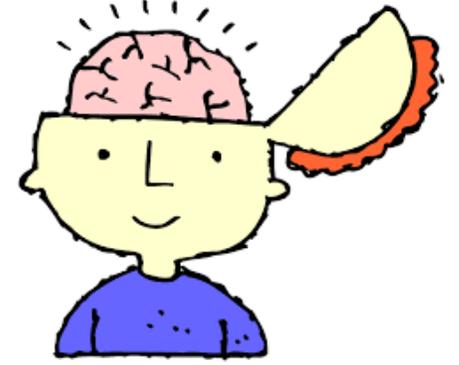
**1Co 12:7** *But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit .*

# Step # Three

## Memorize one Passage per section

Learn general and specific later.

- Highlight key words
- Understand difficult words and the meaning



Read out loud 5 times what you are trying to memorize



Write the verse on paper or put the verse into you phone



# Step # Four      Take the Test at the end of the chapter

1. How are God and man distinguished as to righteousness'?

God is righteous and man is not

2. What are the four aspects of righteousness revealed in Scripture?

A. **God** is Righteous

B. The **Self Righteousness** of Man

C. The **imputed Righteousness** of God

D. Righteousness **Imputed by the Spirit**

3. In what different ways is God completely righteous?

This righteousness of God is unchanging and unchangeable. He is infinitely righteous in His own being and infinitely righteous in all His ways.

4. To what extent is man self-righteous, and why is this insufficient?

In the sight of God, the righteousness of man is as "filthy rags". Though the sinful estate of man is constantly declared throughout Scripture, men have erected human standards of righteousness whereby he compares himself with himself but these have no part of the basis with which he must be judged before God.

5. Why is the imputed righteousness of God necessary for man?

**Imputed righteousness is the ground of Justification.**

According to the New Testament usage, the words "righteousness" and "justify" are from the same root. God declares the one justified forever whom He sees in Christ. It is an equitable decree since the justified one is clothed in the righteousness of God.

6. What are the results of imputation of righteousness to man?

Christ is the righteousness of God, therefore those who are saved are made the righteousness of God by being in Him. They are complete in Him and perfected forever

7. Give some biblical illustrations of imputation.

A. Garments of skin which necessitated the shedding of blood were divinely provided for Adam and Eve

B. A righteous standing was imputed to Abraham because he believed God

C. The priests of old were clothed with righteousness so the believer is robed in the wedding garment of the righteousness of God and in that garment he will appear in glory

D. The attitude of the Apostle Paul toward Philemon is an illustration both of imputed merit and imputed demerit.

## 8. How does imputation affect standing and state before God?

It is the eternal standing of all who are saved. In their daily life, or state, they are far from perfect, and in this aspect of their relation to God they are "to grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ"

## 9. How does imputed righteousness relate to justification?

**Imputed righteousness is the ground of Justification.** According to the New Testament usage, the words "righteousness" and "justify" are from the same root. God declares the one justified forever whom He sees in Christ. It is an equitable decree since the justified one is clothed in the righteousness of God.

## 10. Contrast justification and forgiveness.

Justification is more than forgiveness, since forgiveness is the cancellation of sin while justification is the imputing of righteousness. Forgiveness is negative (the removal of condemnation), while justification is positive (the bestowing of the merit and standing of Christ).

## 11. What is the difference between justification by works and justification by faith?

It is the eternal standing of all who are justified by faith. In their daily life, or state, they are far from perfect. They are justified by works when they obey the Spirit and do works. They are shown to be walking by the principle of faith.

## 12.To what extent is righteousness imparted by the Spirit?

When filled with the Spirit, the child of God will produce the righteous works of the Spirit. These results are distinctly said to be due to the immediate working of the Spirit in and through the believer. It is not a manner of life which is produced by the believer; it is rather a manner of life which is produced through him by the Spirit.