

*Theme*  
**Knowing &  
Experiencing God**



## Psalm 23 (NIV)

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, 3 He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the House of the LORD forever.





# 7 Redemptive Names of God in Psalm 23

**v1a** The LORD is my shepherd

**v1b** I shall not be in want

**v2** He leads me beside quiet waters

**v3** He restores my soul

**v3b** He guides me in paths of righteousness

**v4** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me

**v5** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

#1 - Jehovah-Rohi

#2 - Jehovah-Jireh

#3 - Jehovah-Shalom

#4 - Jehovah-Rapha

#5 - Jehovah-Tsidkenu

#6 - Jehovah-Shammah

#7 - Jehovah-Nissi



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# First Mention of Jehovah Tsidkenu

## - The Lord Our Righteousness

**Tsidkenu** → → “still or straight”

It's a standard of measurement (like a ruler or plumbline)  
- our sinful nature measured against God's holy nature.

Fear of God - Severity of God – Judgments – Ps 97:2



# First Mention of Jehovah Tsidkenu

## - The Lord Our Righteousness

**Jeremiah 23:6** 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.

**Jeremiah 33:15-16**

**15** In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David A Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.

**16** In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.



# First Mention of Jehovah Tsidkenu

## - The Lord Our Righteousness

### The setting of Jeremiah 23:5-6

- When Jeremiah uttered this prophecy, the kingdom of Judah was about to fall.
- More than 100 years earlier, the 10 tribes of Israel had been taken captive never to return because of their infidelity towards God.
- Judah was on the threshold of joining their misery because they had sinned even more grievously than the kingdom to the north.



# Know the 3 Streams of the Character of God

## Jeremiah 9:23-24

**23** Thus says the Lord: “Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty man glory in his might, nor let the rich man glory in his riches;

**24** but let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,” says the Lord.



A person wearing a cap and a backpack is walking away from the viewer on a dirt path that curves through a green field. The sky is filled with dramatic, golden-hued clouds, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall atmosphere is one of journey and hope.

## The Lord Our Righteousness

### - **Jehovah Tsidkenu**

- I. We must have right **standing** before the Righteous God.
- II. We must know truth in **scripture** as revealed by the **Spirit of Truth**.
- III. We must **love** and **walk** in paths of righteousness.



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- I. We must have right standing before the Righteous God.
  1. This comes when we have Jesus as our Saviour and Lord.

### Romans 10:9-10

9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.





1. This comes when we have Jesus as our Saviour and Lord.

**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.

### The Divine Exchange

**1 Corinthians 1:30** But of Him you are in Christ Jesus,  
who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness  
and sanctification and redemption—



2. This righteousness is a gift from God, due to His mercy.

Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Romans 5:17b much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness [gift of God] will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)

Romans 6:23b but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5  
6 ungodly; 8 sinners; 10 enemies

3. It is futile to seek our own righteousness before God.

Isaiah 64:6 But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; we all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Romans 10:3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.

Philippians 3:9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith.

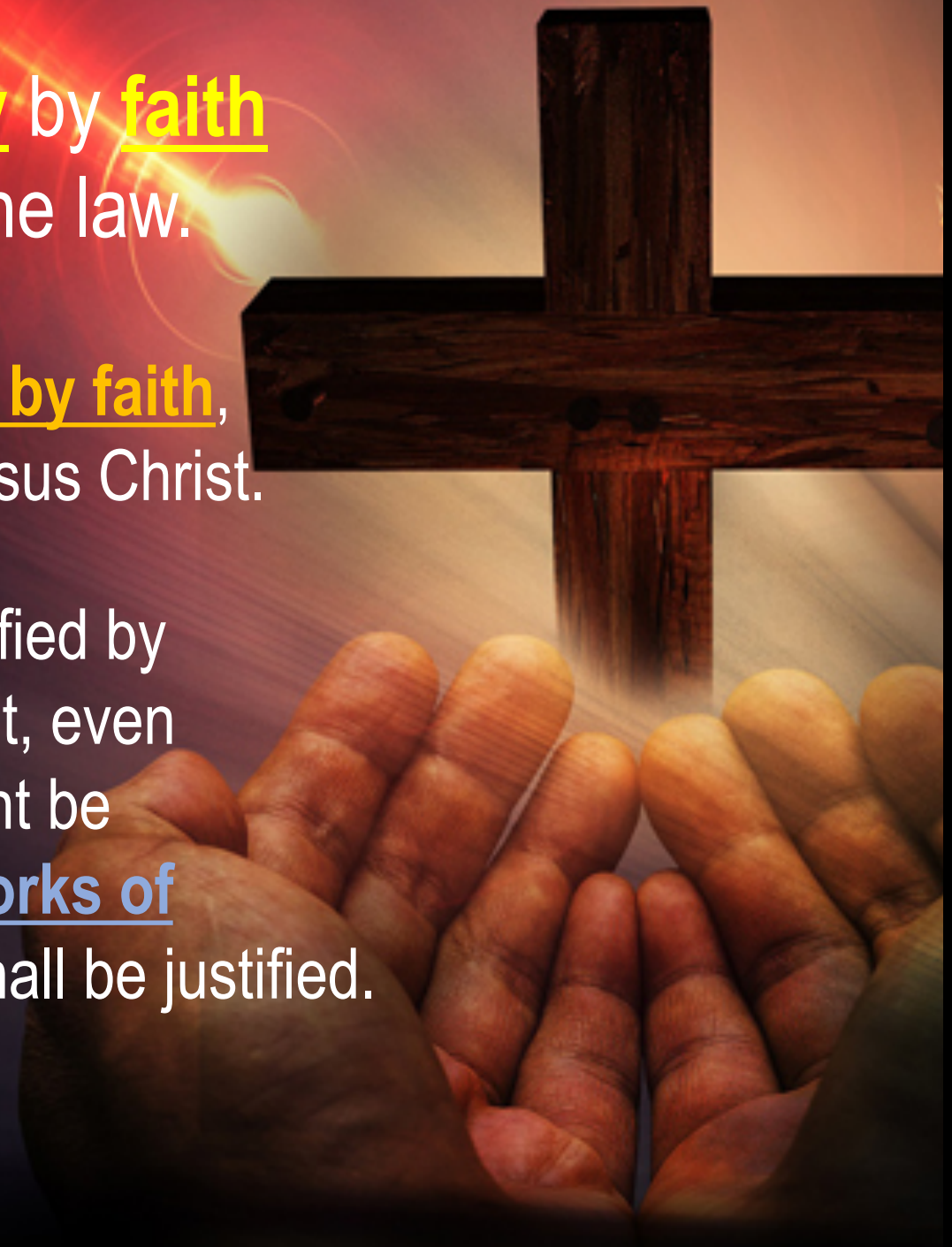




4. This righteousness is received only by faith in Christ and not by any works of the law.


**Romans 5:1** Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Galatians 2:16** knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.





4. This righteousness is received only by faith in Christ and not by any works of the law.



**Galatians 3:10** For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.”

**James 2:10** For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.

4. This righteousness is received only by faith in Christ and not by any works of the law.

Galatians 3:11 But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for “the just shall live by faith.”

Romans 10:4 Christ is the END of the LAW for Righteousness to Everyone who Believes.





5. Pursue a guilt-free,  
NO condemnation relationship  
with God.

Question:

Where does **GUILT** and  
**CONDEMNATION** come from?





5. Pursue a guilt-free, NO condemnation relationship with God.

Two Areas:

A. The consciousness of our own sins, mistakes, shortcomings, foibles, blind spots, weaknesses, infirmities, fallen-ness, shame, etc.

For All People:

**Romans 2:15** ... the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.

5. Pursue a guilt-free, NO condemnation relationship with God.

Two Areas:

A. The consciousness of our own sins, mistakes, shortcomings, foibles, blind spots, weaknesses, infirmities, fallen-ness, shame, etc.

For Believers:

Romans 9:1 I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, **my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit.**

John 16:8-11



5. Pursue a guilt-free, NO condemnation relationship with God.

Two Areas:

B. The 24-7-365 accusation of the evil one.



**Revelation 12:10** Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

Matthew 5:25 - 1 John 1:9

5. Pursue a guilt-free, NO condemnation relationship with God.

Hebrews 9:14 how much more shall the blood  
of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered  
Himself without spot to God, cleanse your  
conscience from dead works to serve  
the living God?

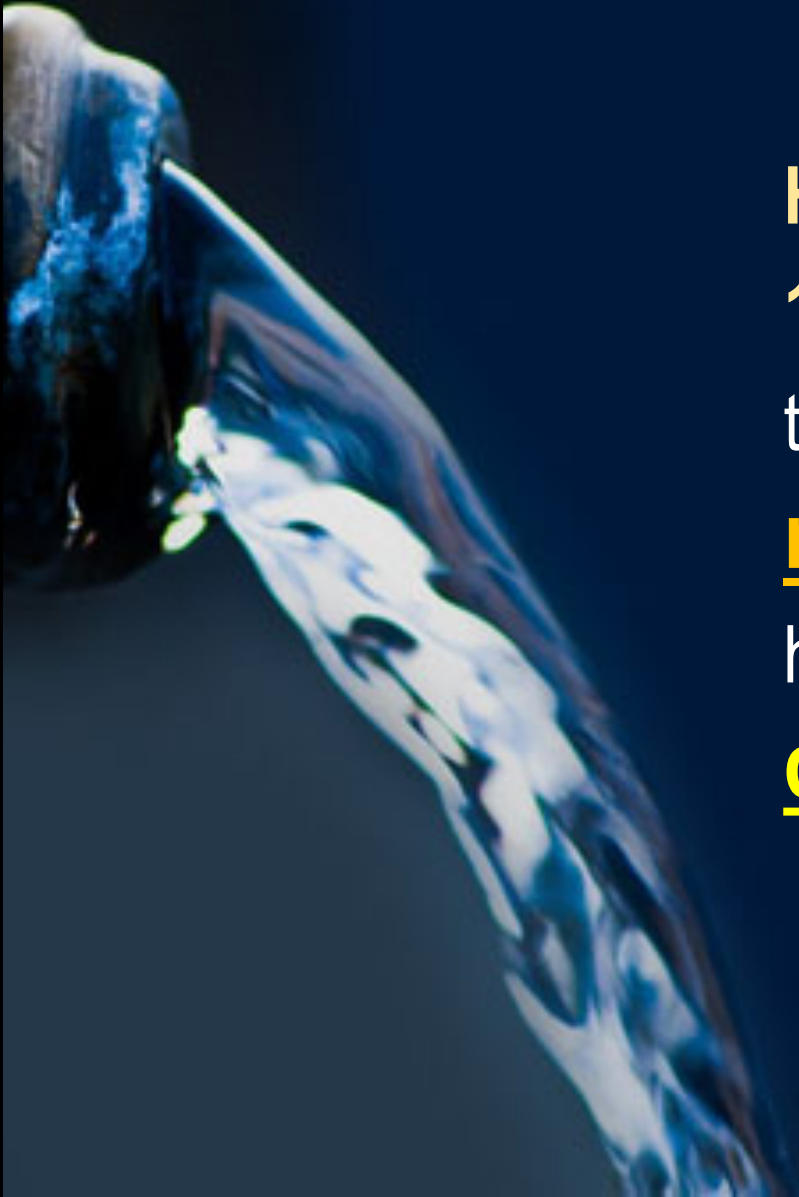




5. Pursue a guilt-free, NO condemnation relationship with God.

Hebrews 10:19, 22

19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.



## 6. Jehovah Tsidkenu, the Lord Our Righteousness Through Him we are forgiven - sanctified - accepted

### Jehovah Tsidkenu:

- Saved us from darkness to light
- Transformed us from filthy to pure
- Promoted us from beggars to eternal heirs!

### For what purposes?

- Right to be called a chosen generation ...  
a royal priesthood ... a holy nation ... a people belonging to God.

### Jehovah Tsidkenu

The God who is not only righteous, but is also OUR righteousness



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## The Lord Our Righteousness

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- I. We must have right standing before the Righteous God.
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# The Lord Our Righteousness - **Jehovah Tsidkenu**

II. We must know truth in **scripture** as revealed by the **Spirit of Truth**.

John 17:17 Sanctify them by **Your truth**. **Your word is truth**.

John 8:32 And you shall **know the truth**, and the **truth shall make you free**.

Guard UGBs

John 16:13 However, when He, the **Spirit of truth**, has come, **He will guide you into all truth**; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

r/s w HS; not pursuit of k-theology per se



The truth is in the Word of God as revealed by the Spirit of Truth.

**2 Corinthians 3:6** who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

**Matthew 22:29** Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.

**John 5:39-40**

**39** You diligently search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.

**40** But you are not willing to come to Me (r/s) that you may have life.



# Purpose of the Pulpit: Anointed Word - Whole Counsel of God

## 2 Timothy 3:16-17

**16** All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **17** that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

**Acts 20:27** For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.

**Psalms 119:160** The entirety of Your word is truth, and every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.

Hyper Gr - Prosperity Go

**2 Corinthians 13:1b** .. "By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established."



# Purpose of the Pulpit: Anointed Word - Whole Counsel of God

## 1 Corinthians 2:4-5

4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

**You must experience (gnosis) God**

1 Corinthians 4:20 For the kingdom of God is not in word but in power.

1 Corinthians 14:3 But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.

# Biblical Preaching

## Definition of Expository

Intended to explain or describe something.

## Definition of Expose

Make (something) visible by uncovering it.

All preaching from our pulpit must be **Biblical**.

- ✓ **Biblical Text** Preaching
- ✓ **Biblical Thematic** Preaching



# Examples in Bible of Biblical Thematic Preaching

## - Jesus and Emmaus Disciples

**Luke 24:27** And beginning at Moses and **all** the Prophets, He expounded to them in **all** the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

## - Sermon by Peter at Pentecost

- ✓ In Acts 2:16-21, Peter quoted from Joel 2:28-32
- ✓ In Acts 2:25-28, Peter quoted from Psalm 16:8-11
- ✓ In Acts 2:34-35, Peter quoted from Psalm 110:1





# Examples in Bible of Biblical Thematic Preaching

## - Paul - Sermon at Mars Hill

✓ Acts 17:22-31

The message of the “**Unknown God**”

Genesis - Creator God  
Exodus - have no idols  
Deuteronomy - choose God  
Psalms - omniscience of God  
Job - sovereignty of God



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III. We must love and walk in paths of righteousness

1. In the OT, God viewed certain men to be righteous and blameless from the way they live.

**Ezekiel 14:14, 16**

**14** Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness,” says the Lord God. **16** even though these three men were in it, as I live,” says the Lord God, “they would deliver neither sons nor daughters; only they would be delivered, and the land would be desolate.

This does **NOT** mean  
they were perfect.  
Only Jesus the Son of Man  
was perfect.



1. In the OT, God viewed certain men to be righteous and blameless from the way they live.

**1 Kings 11:6** Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and did not fully follow the Lord, as did his father David.

**2 Kings 21:16** Moreover Manasseh shed very much innocent blood, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another, besides his sin by which he made Judah sin, in doing evil in the sight of the Lord.

**2 Kings 23:37** And King Jehoiakim did evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers had done.

1. In the OT, God viewed certain men to be righteous and blameless from the way they live.

**2 Kings 22:2** And King Josiah did what was right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in all the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.

**2 Kings 18:3** And King Hezekiah did what was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father David had done.



1. In the OT, God viewed certain men to be righteous and blameless from the way they live.

Genesis 4:7 (NIV) If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.




2. Right living means we walk in the paths of righteousness as directed in the Word and by the Holy Spirit.

**Psalms 23:3b** (NIV) He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

**Romans 14:17** for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

**Matthew 6:33** But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.





3. We must be constantly **trained in righteousness** from the Word and leading by the Holy Spirit in order to live right.

## 2 Timothy 3:16-17

**16** All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for **instruction in righteousness**, **17** that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

# What are your ungodly beliefs?

- Ungodly beliefs are deadly.
- They rob you of the blessings that God desires to give you through Jesus Christ.
- Each ungodly belief attacks a truth of Scripture designed by God to produce in you freedom and abundant life.



# Ungodly Beliefs (UGBs) & Godly Beliefs (GBs)

Wrong Thoughts (UGBs)	Right Beliefs (GBs)
I am good only if I do well.	My Heavenly Father loves me unconditionally.
My life is controlled by the authority figures above me e.g. Parents, Bosses, Teachers.	My life is in God's hands.
I'm not an intelligent person and I will never make it in society.	The Lord is my wisdom and if I depend on Him fully He will direct my path.
I'll always be in lack.	The Lord is my inheritance and the Lord is my provider.

# Ungodly Beliefs (UGBs) & Godly Beliefs (GBs)

Wrong Thoughts (UGBs)	Right Beliefs (GBs)
God can only use me when ...	God can use me.
If you start pursuing God, the devil will attack you.	If you make God your refuge, no evil will come near you.
Because you keep falling, you will never experience victory.	God will make a way so that you will not be tempted beyond what you can bear.
I will never amount to anything because I am always a failure.	I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. In God all things are possible.



# Ungodly Beliefs (UGBs) & Godly Beliefs (GBs)

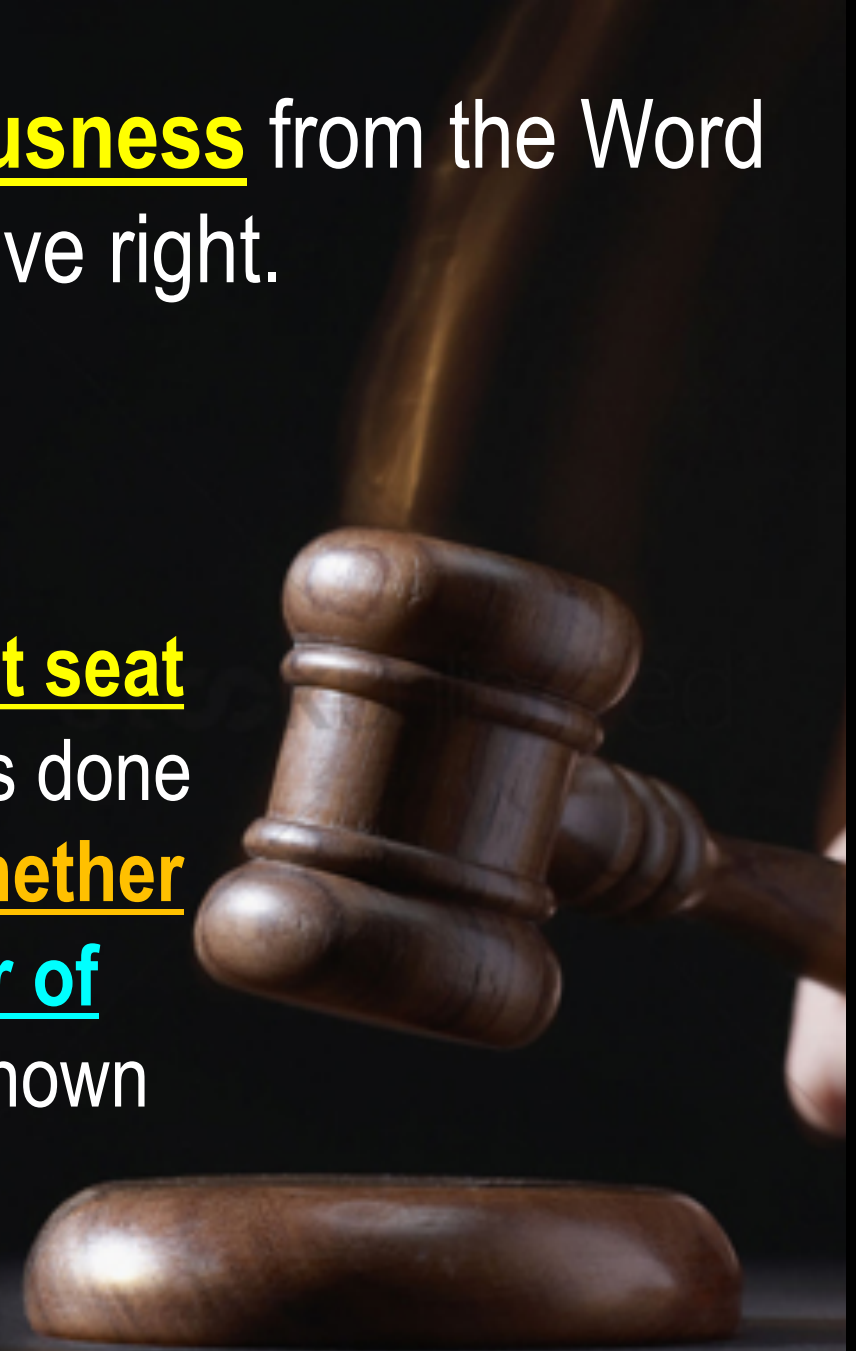
Wrong Thoughts (UGBs)	Right Beliefs (GBs)
By doing my quiet time more, 'serving' God more, I can earn God's favour.	My righteousness is found in Christ alone, and I am not saved by good works but saved for good works.
No one cares about me because I am insignificant and not good enough (e.g. only a member not a leader, am not useful in ministry, no contribution in cell).	The body is a unit, though it is comprised of many parts. And although its parts are many, they all form one body.

3. We must be constantly trained in righteousness from the Word and leading by the Holy Spirit in order to live right.

WHY live right? **Day of Accountability**

**A. 2 Corinthians 5:10-11**

**10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. **11** Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.





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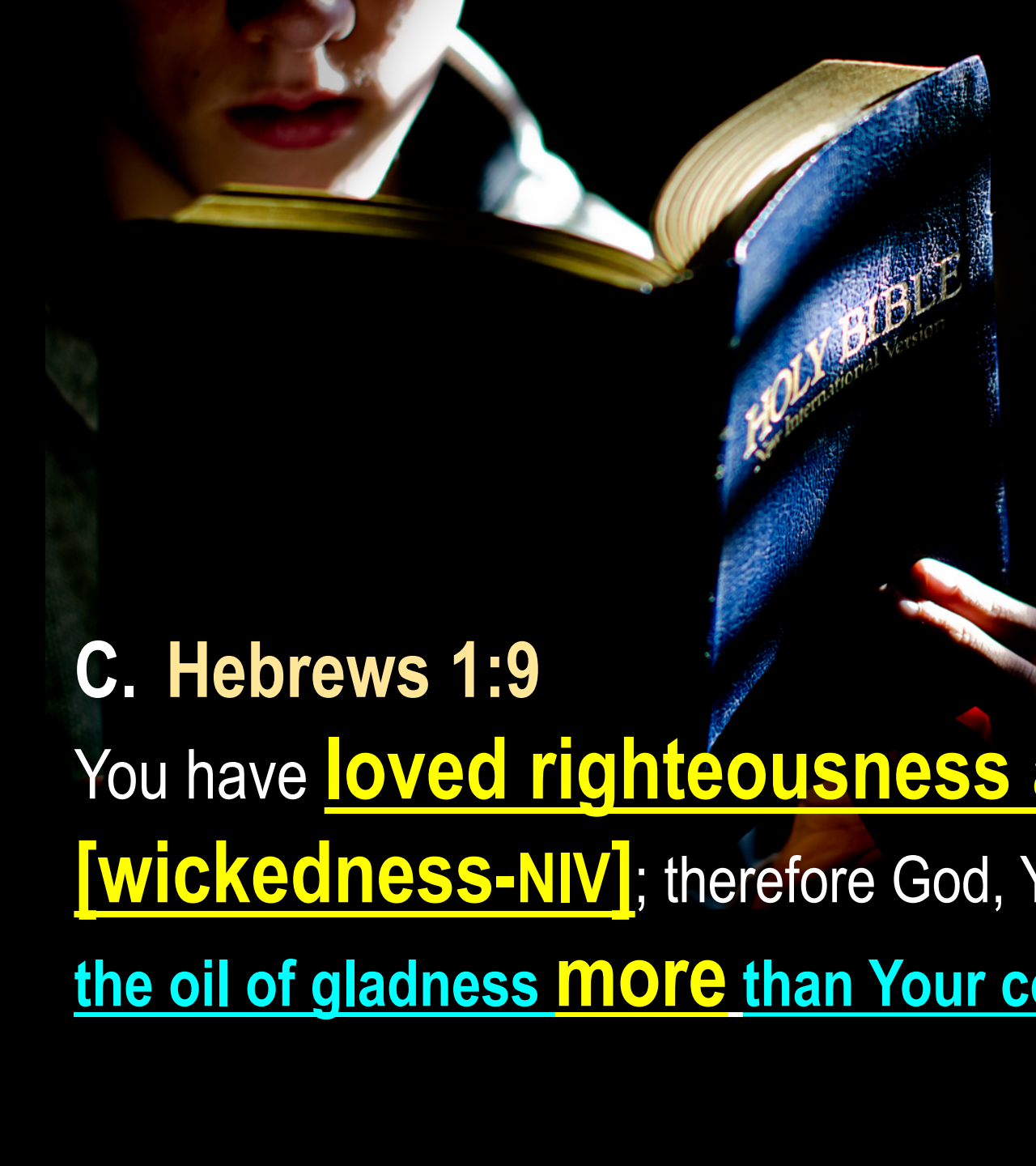
WHY live right? **Boldness**

### B. Proverbs 28:1

The wicked flee when no one pursues,  
but the righteous are bold as a lion.

- Convictions
- Confidence
- Courage



A close-up photograph of a person's face, partially visible on the left, looking down at an open blue Bible. The Bible's cover is visible, showing the words 'HOLY BIBLE' and 'New International Version' in gold lettering. The background is dark, and the lighting is focused on the Bible and the person's face.

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WHY live right? **S-Anointing**

### C. Hebrews 1:9

You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness [wickedness-NIV]; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions.”



3. We must be constantly trained in righteousness from the Word and leading by the Holy Spirit in order to live right.  
Know the difference between Mandata and Exemplars.

**Mandata:** e.g. The 10 Commandments

**Exemplar:** Know the Principles behind the stories, examples, parables, incidents.



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e.g. 1 - We must not have dishonest scales [Proverbs 11:11]

e.g. 2 - How we treat orphans, widows and foreigners  
[Deuteronomy 10:18]

e.g. 3 - About forgiveness and taking revenge [Romans 12:19]

e.g. 4 - Spiritual hygiene [2 Corinthians 7:1]

e.g. 5 - Growing spiritually [2 Peter 3:18]





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e.g. 6 - Do not give the devil a foothold in your life  
[Ephesians 6:26-27]

e.g. 7 - Understand the laws of life and importance of our choices with resultant outcomes  
[Deuteronomy 30:19; Galatians 6:8]

e.g. 8 - Become a disciple [Priest & King]

e.g. 9 - Pursue Christ-likeness [Colossians 3:12-16]





# Promises for those who walk in righteousness

**Proverbs 18:10** The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

**Isaiah 54:14** In righteousness you shall be established; you shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; and from terror, for it shall not come near you.

**Isaiah 54:17** No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me," says the Lord.



# BOTTOM-LINE

Jehovah Tsidkenu - The Lord Our Righteousness

**Tsidkenu** → “**still or straight**” - measuring line

**1 Peter 1:15-16** but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.”

**Romans 11:22** Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

**Hebrews 10:30b-31** ... “The Lord will judge His people.” It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Bevere on JimB-not stopped loving God; stopped fearing God