

“GOD IS OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS” DEVOTIONAL & PRAYER

Our prayer this week focuses on God's Who Is Our “*Righteousness*”. He is the One Who is just, true, honorable, blameless and perfectly upright.

It comes from our prayer verse Ephesians 4:22-24 "You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds, and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true *righteousness* and holiness."

Our encouragement from these verses is that as we hear God's Words and read His Word, His wisdom teaches us that our old sinful way of life and all the deceitful desires that come with that need to be put off when we come to know the Lord as our Savior. There are many times we struggle with our sinful nature, the evil cravings which seem pleasant and promising in the moment, but so disappointing and unsatisfying in retrospect. When the Lord becomes our Savior, that old sinful nature is crucified and buried with Christ and we are given His Holy Spirit of power and strength to overcome these temptations. We become *righteous* in His eyes; right, pure and blameless before the Heavenly Father, *with His power and presence living inside of us!* Because He is the great Counselor, He gives us a new mindset that allows us the wisdom we need to decipher good from evil, but we have to make a decisive effort to listen to Him and not our old sinful nature and be obedient to Him. As we listen to Him in obedience, we are able to put on the "new man", the new creation that we are, which is the child of God, *righteous* and holy! We become more like God intended us to be because God's Spirit in us guides us to live rightly and holy, helping us to have a right conduct and a right mindset towards others, helping us to have a love and passion for others and our Holy Father. God can do this for us as we pray. There is none that is beyond His hand and heart no matter where we are or what we have done. This is a reason to celebrate and praise our *Righteous* Father who gave us all we need to be *righteous* in Him! Let us pray:

"Dear Heavenly Father, we humbly bow before Your throne in our hearts in unity and praise You for being *Righteous!* Lord, we ask that You will teach me and...

(names of those you are praying for)

that with regard to our former ways of life, that we will put off our old selves, which are being corrupted by our deceitful desires; so we may be made new in our attitude of our minds, and put on the new self, created to be like You in true *righteousness* and holiness. Lord, we believe You desire to do this for us for it is in Your Word. May we recognize our need for You and humble our hearts before your mighty throne. May our hope be in You all day long. Thank-you for loving us with an everlasting love and may it all be for the glory of Your name. In Your loving Son's name, Jesus, we pray, Amen.”.