Connections and Comparisons is an ongoing weekly series that deals with many scriptures in the Bible, some of which are not commonly addressed. The purpose of this series is to examine the scriptures at hand comparing what is said and looking at the connections within.

John 21:7

7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.

Hebrews 9:28

<u>28 So Christ was once offered</u> to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Jesus Christ suffered once by the death of the cross bearing the sins of the world and "unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." However, we are to be looking for him! "Take ye heed, **watch and pray**: for ye know not when the time is. For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, **and gave authority to his servants**, and **to every man his work**, and <u>commanded the porter to watch</u>. **Watch ye therefore**: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: **Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping**. And what I say unto you I say unto all, **Watch.**" (Mk 13:33-37)

Romans 5:14-19

14 Nevertheless **death reigned from Adam to Moses**, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

15 But not as **the offence**, so also is the free gift. For if **through the offence of one many be dead**, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

16 And not as it was **by one that sinned**, so is the gift: for **the judgment was by one to condemnation**, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.

17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)
18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.
19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

This is speaking of the fall of mankind in the Garden of Eden whereas "death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come." Adam was "the figure of him that was to come" meaning Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ *was the second and last Adam*. "And so it is written, **The first man Adam** was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit

that was not first which is spiritual, **but that which is natural**; and afterward that which is spiritual. **The first man is of the earth, earthy**: the second man is the Lord from heaven." (1 Cor 15:45-47) Just as the disobedience of one, this being Adam, so death passed upon all mankind "**for the judgment was by one to condemnation**". Even so by the obedience of one, this being Jesus Christ, "the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life."

Hebrews 2:16-18

16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him **the seed of Abraham**. 17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him **to be made like unto his brethren**, that he might be <u>a</u> merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

Jesus Christ made "reconciliation for the sins of the people" by taking "on him the seed of Abraham" so that he could die in our place as our substitute being himself *without sin*. Since all of mankind was born in sin only someone *without sin* could fulfill the righteousness of the law and set us free *from the law of sin and death*. The soul that sins it will die. So God made a way for us to escape death by being born again, a spiritual birth, that would allow us to be made the righteousness of God in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:19-21

19 To wit, that **God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself**, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us <u>the world of reconciliation</u>. 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, **be ye reconciled to God**.

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.

This righteousness that is in Jesus Christ who was without sin could not come by the Law of Moses because all mankind was under sin and the soul the sins will surely die. Mankind was in need of a savior who could give us eternal life.

Galatians 3:21-29

21 Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.

22 But the scripture hath concluded **all under sin**, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

23 But before faith came, we were kept **under the law**, shut up unto the faith **which should afterwards be revealed**.

24 Wherefore **the law was our schoolmaster** to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

27 For as many of you as have been **baptized into Christ have put on Christ**.

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.
29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

The Law was "our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith." So it is imperative that you "**be ye reconciled to God**" and this can only be accomplished through Jesus Christ, "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."

Romans 10:1-4

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.
 For I bear them record that they have <u>a zeal of God</u>, but not according to knowledge.
 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.
 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

The misunderstanding of the Jews was the denying of their Messiah Jesus Christ.

Galatians 4:4-7

4 But when the fulness of the time was come, **God sent forth his Son**, **made of a woman**, **made under the law**,

5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

6 And because ye are sons, **God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son** into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

7 Wherefore thou art no more a servant, **but a son**; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Since all of mankind was under the penalty of sin, "God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." This adoption was to all of mankind as Jesus bore the sins of the world. "For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." (Lk 2:30-35) "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls." (1 Peter 2:21-25)

Romans 8:1-4

1 There is therefore now **no condemnation** to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

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

"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth" (Rm 10:4) "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh" (Rm 8:2-3) "Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe." (Gal 3:21-22)

Philippians 3:4-15

4 Though I might also have confidence **in the flesh**. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, **I more**:

5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

Take careful notice here that the Apostle Paul is **separating** "the righteousness which is in the law" **from** "that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith". This is being done to show that the Apostle Paul, as Saul of Tarsus, who had been persecuting the Church of the Living God, **was according to Israel's misconception of the righteousness which is of the Law and thus he was blameless**. This is the error that he explained that the nation of Israel as a whole, who rejected their Messiah, had done in Romans 10 saying, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. 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. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth." (Rm 10:1-4) **This is also what the Apostle Paul, as Saul of Tarsus, had been doing as well.**

7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8 Yea doubtless, and **I count all things but loss** for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and **do count them but dung**, that I may win Christ,

9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

Here the Apostle Paul explains that he counts "**all things but loss** for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord" *this is in direct opposition to what he had previously stated* when he was **persecuting the Church of the Living God** *and explaining concerning Israel* "I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, **but not according to knowledge**. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and **going about to establish their own righteousness**, <u>have</u> not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God". (Rm 10:2-3)

The Apostle Paul continues concerning "the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord".

<u>10 That I may know him</u>, and **the power of his resurrection**, and <u>the fellowship of his</u> <u>sufferings</u>, **being made conformable unto his death**;

<u>11 If by any means</u> I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: **but I follow after**, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, **I count not myself to have apprehended**: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

15 Let us therefore, <u>as many as be perfect</u>, **be thus minded**: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, **God shall reveal even this unto you**.

How do we of the New Testament receive the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ?

Romans 3:20-28

20 Therefore by the deeds of the law **there shall no flesh be justified in his sight**: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

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:

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

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

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

27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. **By what law**? of works? **Nay**: but by the law of faith.

28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

We must become obedient to the faith, which is the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is accomplished by partaking of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. **Romans 1:5-6**

5 By whom we have received grace and apostleship, **for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name**:

6 Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ:

Romans 16:25-26

25 Now to him that is of **power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ**, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

The gospel of Jesus Christ was "made known to all nations for the obedience of faith".

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, <u>unless ye have</u> believed in vain.

3 For I delivered unto you **first of all that which I also received**, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

To become obedient to the faith, which is the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is accomplished by partaking of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ **as we have just read**, we must be born again of water and of the Spirit as Jesus instructed.

John 3:1-7

1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. 3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God**.

6 That which is born <u>of the flesh is flesh</u>; and that which is born <u>of the Spirit is spirit</u>. 7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, **Ye must be born again**.

To be born again as Jesus has instructed us, which is to become obedient to the faith, which is the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is accomplished by partaking of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we must be obedient to the faith as we were instructed by the Apostles of Jesus Christ.

Acts 2:36-39

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

<u>37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?</u>

<u>38 Then Peter said unto them</u>, **Repent**, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

This is being born again as Jesus has instructed us, which is to become obedient to the faith, which is the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is accomplished by partaking of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, where we must be obedient to the faith as we were instructed by the Apostles of Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:3-6

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.