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.

2 Thessalonians 2:13

13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, **because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation** through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

Hebrews 2:14-17

14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, **he also himself likewise took part of the same**; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

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 a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

Lets begin our teaching on the Gift of Grace. "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the <u>word of his grace</u>, which is able to **build you up**, and to give you an inheritance <u>among all</u> them which are **sanctified**." (Acts 20:32) The very first thing we have just learned is that grace is able to build us up. Unlike guilt which will tear you down. This is because the Law brought forth guilt and condemnation, whereas grace brings forth justification of life.

Romans 3:19

19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

Romans 5:15-19

15 But not as the offence, so <u>also is the free gift</u>. For <u>if through the offence of one many be</u> <u>dead</u>, 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 <u>one that sinned</u>, so is the gift: for <u>the judgment was by one to</u> <u>condemnation</u>, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.

17 For <u>if by one man's offence death reigned by one</u>; 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 <u>by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation;</u> even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

19 For <u>as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners</u>, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

However we also learned from Acts 20:32 that grace will also give an inheritance to all them which are sanctified. So the first thing we better find out is how does one become sanctified?

"Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." (Hebrews 10:9-10) "For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate." (Hebrews 13:11-12)

Here we learn that we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ as well as the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

"Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." (Ephesians 5:25-27)

"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; 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. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)" (Hebrews 10:19-23)

Here we learn that to be sanctified we need our bodies washed with pure water. We also learn that this is where the blood of Jesus Christ is applied to our lives and that our sins are remitted. "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin." (Hebrews 10:16-18) "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:3) So after repenting of our sins we find that it is in the water baptism in Jesus name that we are sanctified and cleansed by the washing of water by the word. "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22:16)

Romans 15:15-16

15 Nevertheless, brethren, I have written the more boldly unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God,

16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ <u>to the Gentiles</u>, ministering the <u>gospel of God</u>, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being **sanctified by the Holy Ghost**.

So now we have learned how one becomes sanctified. We are sanctified by the Blood of Jesus Christ and the receiving of the Holy Ghost. This is very important. **Recall: Acts 20:32** "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the <u>word of his grace</u>, which is able to **build you up**, and to give you an inheritance <u>among all them which are **sanctified**</u>." This means that the Gift of Grace which is able to build you up, allows you to gain access to the inheritance, which is eternal life through Jesus Christ by the Gift of the Holy Ghost, which we have found is needed to be sanctified. To be sanctified, one must be born again of water and of the Spirit as Jesus has told us in John 3:1-7, which is fulfilled in Acts 2:38-39. It is essential for you to repent and be baptized in Jesus name for the remission of your sins and it is a promise that you will receive the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost will come into you with the evidence of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance.

Again we learn, as seen from 2 Thessalonians 2:13 above, that we are sanctified by the receiving of the Holy Ghost. So then, we now see that we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ as well as the shed blood of Jesus Christ wherein we are sanctified and cleansed by the washing of water by the word when we repent of our sins and are baptized in Jesus name for the remission of our sins, as well as the receiving of the Holy Ghost.

Recall Acts 20:32 which reads "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified." Now that we fully understand how the process of sanctification takes place we can now better understand how the gift of grace, which is able to build you up, allows you to gain access to the inheritance, which is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then, let's find out how those that are sanctified access the grace of God which in turn allows them access to the "inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you". (1 Peter 1:4)

"For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith." (Galatians 5:5) "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." (Romans 5:1-2)

Acts 2:1-4

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven <u>as of a rushing mighty wind</u>, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Galatians 5:5

5 For we **through the Spirit** wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

Romans 10:4-5

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

5 For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, **That the man which doeth those things shall live by them.**

James 2:10-13

10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, **thou art become a transgressor of the law.**

12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.

13 For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath showed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

Romans 3:19-26

19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, <u>it saith to them who are under the law</u>: **that every mouth may be stopped**, and all the world may become guilty before God.

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

21 But <u>now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested</u>, being **witnessed by the law** and **the prophets**;

22 Even the <u>righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them</u> <u>that believe</u>: for there is no difference:

23 For **all have sinned**, and <u>come short of the glory of God</u>;

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 <u>his righteousness</u>: that he might be **just**, and the **justifier** of him which believeth in Jesus.

Since we all have sinned and fell short of the Glory of God, God sent Jesus Christ the Righteous, to be a reconciliation between God and man **seeing how He ever Liveth to make Intercession for us.** Now by our obedience of faith and partaking of Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, we now have access by faith in His blood unto God's grace wherein we now stand. Being then justified freely by his grace we have the hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

20 For **ye are bought with a price**: therefore glorify God **in your body**, and **in your spirit**, which are God's.

We are a Purchased Possession. Bought with the Price of the Blood of Jesus Christ!!!

Ephesians 1:12-14

12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the <u>gospel of your salvation</u>: in whom also after that ye believed, <u>ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise</u>,
14 <u>Which is the earnest of our inheritance</u> until the <u>redemption of the purchased possession</u>, unto the praise of his glory.

The redemption of the purchased possession is our gathering together to Him in what we call the rapture, where we will meet the Lord in the air and be forever with Him.

1 Thessalonians 4:17-18

17 Then we which are alive and remain **shall be caught up together with them** in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

So those who have the Spirit, which is the Holy Ghost, wait for the hope of righteousness by faith, and therefore being justified by faith, have access by their faith into grace, wherein we stand. "And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly." (Romans 5:3-6) "To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ." (Galatians 4:5-7) Being set free from the law we now have become sons of God again by the spirit of adoption. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ: if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." (Romans 8:14-17)

"John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." (John 1:15-17)

"Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. 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. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; 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: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 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; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus." (Romans 3:19-26) Since we all have sinned and fell short of the Glory of God, God sent Jesus Christ the Righteous, to be a reconciliation between God and men. Now by our obedience of faith and partaking of Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, we now have access by faith in His blood unto God's grace wherein we now stand. Being then justified freely by his grace we have the hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec." (Hebrews 6:19-20)

Hebrews 7:1-28

7:1 For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him;

2 To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;

This is so very important to understand. Abraham paid tithes to Melchisedec. This was done before the Mosaic Law was instituted. Tithing was being instituted here. Outside of the Mosaic Law. This Melchisedec was God....

3 Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.

Notice that it says that He was made like unto the Son of God and abides a priest continually. This is because He is God. Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life. Now listen to what is spoken...

4 Now consider how great this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils.

5 And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham:

The sons of Levi was the tribe that God established the priesthood with under the Mosaic Law. They were commanded to take tithes of the people according to the law.

6 But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises.

Pay special attention to what was spoken in verse 6. But He (Melchisedec) who was not of the Levitical priesthood received tithes of Abraham. This being before the Law was instituted.

7 And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better.

Verse 7 is saying without contradiction the less (Abraham who had the promises of God) is blessed of the better. (Melchisedec who was God.)

8 And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth.

Notice here in verse 8 that it says and here men that die receive tithes (Levitical priesthood) but He (Melchisedec) received them, of whom it is witnessed that He lives. This is because He is God; without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life.

<u>9 And as I may so say</u>, Levi also, who receive th tithes, payed tithes in Abraham. **10 For he was yet in the loins of his father**, when Melchisedec met him.

Notice here in verses 9 and 10 that it is said that the Levitical priesthood paid tithes to Melchisedec while in the loins of Abraham his father.

11 If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron?

<u>There are two orders.</u> The order of Aaron and the order of Melchisedec. Jesus Christ was after the order of Melchisedec and not after the order of Aaron. But both orders of priesthood received tithes. Thus tithing is to be paid because Jesus Christ is after the order of Melchisedec and Abraham our father paid tithes to Him as well as the Levitical priesthood though they were in the loins of their father Abraham at that time.

12 For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law.
13 For he of whom these things are spoken pertaineth to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar.

14 For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.

With the promise of a New Covenant there was made of necessity a change also of the priesthood. Our Lord, who came after the order of Melchisedec, came out of the tribe of Juda and not out of the tribe of Levi.

15 And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest, (this being Jesus Christ)

16 Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life.

17 For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

Jesus Christ was in the similitude of Melchisedec. Remember from verse 2 above that Melchisedec is "by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;" Just as we know that Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace.

Also Jesus Christ had the power of an endless life just as Melchisedec from verse 4 we learned was also without end of life as well as verse 8 "it is witnessed that he liveth."

18 For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof.

19 For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

20 And inasmuch as not without an oath he was made priest:

21 (For those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of

Melchisedec:)

22 By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.

23 And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death:

24 But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.

25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him. seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

26 For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

27 Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.

28 For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated for evermore.

John 2:18-22

18 Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things?

19 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. 20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days?

21 But he spake of the temple of his body.

22 When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.

What we learn from this is that there are 2 orders of priesthood. That of Melchisedec and that of Aaron. Jesus Christ was after the order of Melchisedec. Both orders received tithes. And since Jesus Christ is after this order of Melchisedec we also are to pay tithes because both orders received tithes.

Remember that when you pay tithes, you are not tithing unto men but unto God.

Hebrews 13:8 8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Malachi 3:8-11 8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

1 Corinthians 9:9-14

9 For it is written in the law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen?

10 Or saith he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope. 11 If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?

12 If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ.
13 Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar?

14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

It's time to stop robbing God of His tithes and offerings!! Tithing is taught in the New Testament as Jesus is of the order of Melchisedec which was before the Mosaic Law.

John 1:15-17

15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for <u>he was before me.</u>

16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

Romans 4:2-8

2 For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God.

3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not ascertained by grace, but of debt.

Meaning that to him that works the reward is a debt owed for his labor instead of being freely given by God's grace without works.

5 But to him that worketh not, but <u>believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly</u>, his faith is counted for righteousness.

6 Even as David also describeth <u>the blessedness of the man</u>, unto whom <u>God imputeth</u> <u>righteousness without works</u>,

- 7 Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.
- 8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

So we obtain righteousness not by our works, **but by obedience and by believing on God that justifies the ungodly.** This person, who **has been obedient** unto God and **has believed** on Jesus Christ whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation <u>through faith in his blood</u>, (to declare his righteousness <u>for the remission of sins</u> that are past,) **this person**, God forgives their iniquities and does not impute sin to them, but instead as the Justifier of many, He imputes righteousness unto you, **remembering your sins no more**.

Romans 4:13-25

13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but **through the righteousness of faith**.

14 For if they which are of the law be heirs, <u>faith is made void</u>, and <u>the promise made of none effect</u>:

15 Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.

16 Therefore **it is of faith**, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure **to all the seed**; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the <u>father of us all</u>,

17 (As it is written, <u>I have made thee a father of many nations</u>,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.
18 Who <u>against hope believed in hope</u>, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall **thy seed** be.

19 And <u>being not weak in faith</u>, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb:

20 **He staggered not** at the promise of God through unbelief; but **was strong in faith**, giving glory to God;

21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

22 And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

23 Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;

24 But **for us also**, to whom it shall be imputed, **if** we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;

25 Who was <u>delivered for our offences</u>, and was raised again for our justification.

Even though righteousness is not obtained by works, we have learned that it is obtained by obedience.

Romans 6:16

16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to **obey**, his servants ye are to whom ye **obey**; whether of sin unto death, or of **obedience unto righteousness**?

We also have learned that righteousness is obtained by believing on God that justifies the ungodly. Therefore being **justified by faith** it is highly important to realize that faith without works <u>is dead</u>. It is our obedience of faith that leads unto righteousness.

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:

James 2:20-23

20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?

22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?

23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, **Abraham believed God**, and <u>it was imputed</u> <u>unto him for righteousness</u>: and he was called the Friend of God.

Apostle James has given us clear instructions on how the **scripture was fulfilled** which said that Abraham believed God. Just as our father Abraham **applied his faith with obedience** in believing God concerning the promise he was given through his seed, **we too must be obedient to** <u>believing on God that justifieth the ungodly</u>, **as the scripture has told us.** Abraham showed his obedient faith **by placing his only son Isaac on an altar to slay him** as God commanded him, whereas we today are obedient to God as Jesus Christ has told us **to be born again of water and of the Spirit**, which will then lead to a life of separation, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. This person's **faith is counted for righteousness**.

Romans 5:10-19

10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received **the atonement**.

The atonement of Christ was the reconciliation **between God and man** when Jesus Christ became **our sacrifice for sins** and **made a way for us** to partake of His righteousness **through our obedient faith** unto Him. This is accomplished **by applying Acts 2:38** in your life, wherein you partake of **the born again experience of water and of the Spirit** and thus the New Testament Covenant, (brought by Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection,) **is fulfilled.** This fulfillment **restores sonship** that was lost by the first Adam. The second Adam being Jesus Christ.

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

13 (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

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

That figure of Him that was to come was Jesus Christ.

15 But not as the offence, so <u>also is the free gift</u>. For <u>if through the offence of one many be</u> <u>dead</u>, 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 <u>one that sinned</u>, so is the gift: for <u>the judgment was by one to</u> <u>condemnation</u>, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.

What you are reading is the moving away from condemnation that was brought forth by sin, to justification unto life that was brought forth by Jesus Christ.

17 For <u>if by one man's offence death reigned by one</u>; 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 <u>as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners</u>, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, **he is a new creature**: old things are passed away; behold, <u>all things are become new</u>.

18 And <u>all things are of God</u>, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the <u>ministry of reconciliation</u>;

19 To wit, that **God was in Christ**, <u>reconciling the world unto himself</u>, <u>not imputing their</u> trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

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, <u>who knew no sin</u>; that we might be made <u>the</u> <u>righteousness of God in him</u>.

Even though Jesus Christ never sinned, **He became sin** for us, that through His death **sin might be destroyed.** Thus allowing **those who obey Him** to partake of the **born again process of God** and to then become **a new creature in Christ.**

Colossians 1:19-23

19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;

20 And, having **made peace through the blood of his cross**, by him **to reconcile all things unto himself**; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

21 And you, that **were sometime alienated** and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:

23 **If ye continue in the faith** grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

Set free from the Law of Sin and Death by the Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus!!

Romans 8:1-18

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

2 For the <u>law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus</u> 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.

5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

9 But <u>ye are not in the flesh</u>, **but in the Spirit**, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. <u>Now</u> if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

This is why we must born of the Spirit, otherwise we are none of His.

10 And <u>if Christ be in you</u>, **the body is dead because of sin**; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

Righteousness that was imputed to your charge without the works of the Mosaic Law.

11 But <u>if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up</u> <u>Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you</u>.

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

We must not continue in sin, for if you live after the flesh, you will surely die!!

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

We will be joint-heirs with Christ. Everything that is His will be ours!!

18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Praise God!! What Precious Promises we have in God!! What Precious Gifts God has given unto us!! O How Precious is the Blood!!??!!

Hebrews 10:1-4; 14

1 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, <u>can</u> <u>never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers</u> <u>thereunto perfect</u>.

2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

3 But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.

4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

This process of justification wherein God the justifier of many has given the free gift of grace that reigns through the free gift of righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord, has forever purged us **from condemnation and guilt concerning our conscience** and has forever perfected the conscience of them that are sanctified, (which are those who have been born again by partaking of the Lord's death, burial, and resurrection), and has set us free of the law of sin and death.

"For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins". (Hebrews 10:26) "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23) "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

So we see that it is very important once we come to the knowledge of the truth, to not purposefully and intentionally go on sinning. But instead we are to put our flesh to death concerning sin, and obey righteousness unto Life.

Seeing how He ever Liveth to make Intercession

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9) "According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him." (Ephesians 3:11-12) " Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:14-16)

So when you fall into temptation and sin, **don't let the devil or yourself**, begin to **condemn you** or to **begin to give you a guilt trip**. Instead apply the Word of God, the Sword of the Spirit! **Come Boldly unto the throne of grace** with full assurance, for He is **Faithful and Just** to forgive us our sins, and to **cleanse us** from all unrighteousness. Remember, there is therefore now **no condemnation** to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. **Those who truly are following the grace of God** will deny themselves ungodliness and worldly lusts, and will live soberly, righteously, and Godly, in this present world. **They will** be watching for the blessed hope of Jesus Christ's return and will become zealous of good works.

"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren". (Hebrews 2:9-11)

So to fulfill being sanctified as well as justified by God through Jesus Christ, one must be born again of water and of the Spirit as Jesus has instructed us in John 3:1-7. Therefore you must be born again of water and of the Spirit, according to Acts 2:38-39 which reads, "Then Peter said unto them, 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. 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."