

the righteousness~~of God~~ that God requires^s or the ~~God's~~ righteousness that God possesses. Of course, you see the righteousness that God possesses demands that if break the law, I must be punished and the righteousness ~~of~~ that God requires is the complete fulfillment of the law. There are both united in part. I venture to suggest in this passage. That is an unusual method of exposition I know, but it is mine. Now how can I satisfy God? The reason why I think the two are combined here is that if you look at the twenty-sixth verse, "To declare I say at this time his righteousness that he might be just that God should satisfy his inherent integrity and the justifier of him that believeth in Jesus, that God should find a righteousness for the believer in Christ that would be consonant with his integral integrity." See the idea? Now that raises the question, "How?"

I want you to notice first of all as we study this epistle on the question of atonement that the Bible attitude is entirely different from the ordinary man's attitude. The ordinary man thinks that forgiveness is a natural thing for God to pardon the necessary imperfection in thought due to the limitations of human speech. The ordinary man thinks that God forgives. His idea of God is a beneficent and benevolent Being. Oh, forget it. I know that if I were to put a strict rule of law on your life, I could find flaws there but really on the whole you are a decent kind of fellow and we'll just ~~wipe~~ wipe out the arrears. So the ordinary man has what I call the "cold storage" theory of salvation. When you leave this world you are put into cold storage until God has time with all the pressure of duties that revolve upon Him to look up your past. Then one day He says, "Here is that fellow. There are 2,000 good things on this side and ~~2,347~~ 2,347 bad things on that side. Well, 347 balances against short hours. We'll give him a discount." So he was scraped into heaven. Of course, if God hasn't had time to look up your account yet, you