

Lord's Day 23

59. Q. But what does it help you
now that you believe all this?

A. In Christ I am righteous before God
and heir to life everlasting.

1. Hab 2:4; Jn 3:36; Rom 1:17; 5:1, 2.

60. Q. How are you righteous before God?

A. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ.
Although my conscience accuses me
that I have grievously sinned
against all God's commandments,
have never kept any of them,
and am still inclined to all evil,
yet God, without any merit of my own,
out of mere grace,
imputes to me
the perfect satisfaction,
righteousness, and holiness of Christ.
He grants these to me
as if I had never had nor committed
any sin,
and as if I myself had accomplished
all the obedience
which Christ has rendered for me,
if only I accept this gift
with a believing heart.

1. Rom 3:21-28; Gal 2:16; Eph 2:8, 9; Phil 3:8-11.
2. Rom 3:9, 10.
3. Rom 7:23.
4. Deut 9:6; Ezek 36:22; Tit 3:4, 5.
5. Rom 3:24; Eph 2:8.
6. Rom 4:3-5; 2 Cor 5:17-19; 1 Jn 2:1, 2.
7. Rom 4:24, 25; 2 Cor 5:21.
8. Jn 3:18; Acts 16:30, 31; Rom 3:22.

61. Q. Why do you say
that you are righteous
only by faith?

A. Not that I am acceptable to God
on account of the worthiness
of my faith,
for only the satisfaction, righteousness,
and holiness of Christ
is my righteousness before God.
I can receive this righteousness
and make it my own
by faith only.

1. 1 Cor 1:30, 31; 2:2.
2. Rom 10:10; 1 Jn 5:10-12.