

# BUT NOW...

Romans 3:21–26

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- Jesus' CROSS is God's decisive "BUT NOW" that stands at the center of history.
- Jesus' cross makes God's RIGHTEOUSNESS available to us through FAITH.
- Jesus' cross REDEEMS us through His propitiating BLOOD.
- Jesus' cross shows how God can be both JUST and the JUSTIFIER of broken sinners.



August 14, 2022 — Nathanael

# FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. Read Romans 3:9-26. How does this section function as a "but now" point in the argument? How has all of history been pointing towards this "but now"?
2. Explain the difference between the cross being an objective "but now" in history, and a subjective "but now" in our lives. What was it like when you experienced the reality of the cross in your life for the first time?
3. In Romans 3:22–24 what does it mean that "there is no distinction?"
4. How is being "justified" in verse 24 different from being pardoned? How is it different from being sanctified?
5. Does the gospel sometimes grow old and stale in our lives? How can we rekindle our heart for God in those times?
6. How does the thought that God put Jesus forward as a propitiation through His blood (v. 24) sit with you? Why? (see also Acts 2:23; Acts 4:27-28; Isa 53:10)
7. How does Jesus' propitiation answer how God can be both just and the Justifier of those who have faith in Jesus?
8. What does having faith in Jesus look like in your life on a day-to-day basis? How do you need to press into trusting Jesus more?

## MEMORY VERSES: ROMANS 1:16-17

<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

<sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now.... Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle