

## Kaleidoscope kalos (beautiful), eidos (form), & scopos (watcher)









#### SERMON SERIES

Romans 3:19-24

Today's message:

"A Kaleidoscope of Good News"

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup> For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it — 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus

1. The Problem

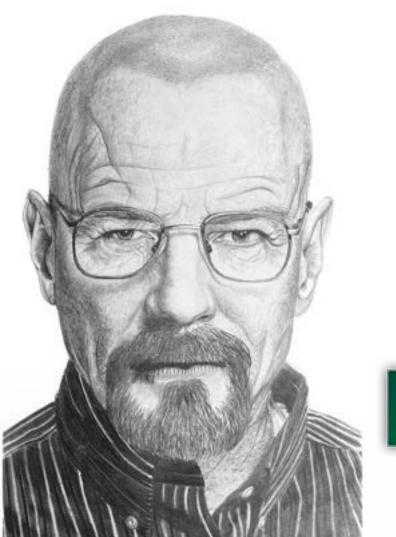
2. The Solution

3. So What?

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Br eaking
Bad

## Jeremiah 23:29

"Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

### Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Romans 3:21-26 the chief point, and the very central place of the Epistle, and of the whole Bible"

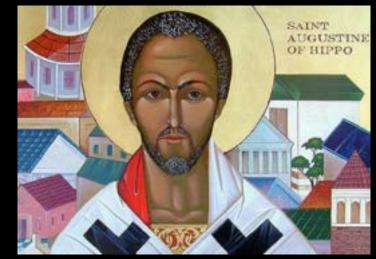


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The righteousness of God is not that by which God is righteous but that with which he clothes humanity when he

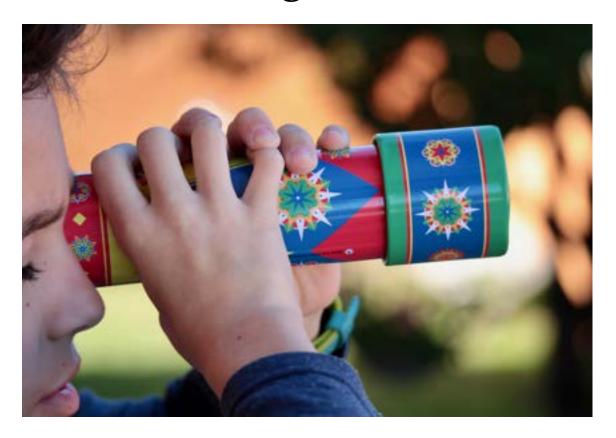
justifies the ungodly.

To this the Law and the Prophets bear witness."



Augustine, on the Spirit and the Letter 15.9

## The Rescuing Work of God



#### Psalm 98:2-3

<sup>2</sup>The Lord has made known his salvation; To the eyes of the nations he has revealed his righteousness.

<sup>3</sup>He has remembered his constant love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel; All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

## The Rescuing Work of God



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That pernicious and pestilent opinion of selfrighteousness doesn't recognize he is a sinner, unclean, miserable, damnable. Instead, he thinks of himself as righteous and holy and does not tolerate that God will do what is natural and proper. Therefore, God needs to take that mallet in hand (I'm talking about the law) to knock down and demolish, turning this beast into nothing with its empty confidence, wisdom, righteousness, and power.

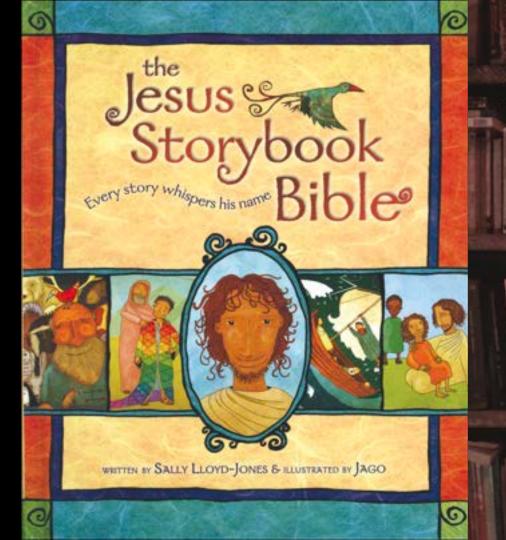
That's how it will finally learn through its own misery and foolishness that it has been left totally to its own doings, lost and condemned. This is when the conscience suffers the horror brought on by the law, sent from the Gospel and grace, which comfort and lift it up, saying, "Christ came to the world not to break the bruised reed, nor to quench the smoldering flame, but to preach the Gospel of great joy to the poor, heal the broken and contrite heart, preach forgiveness of sins to the captives."

## The Rescuing Work of God



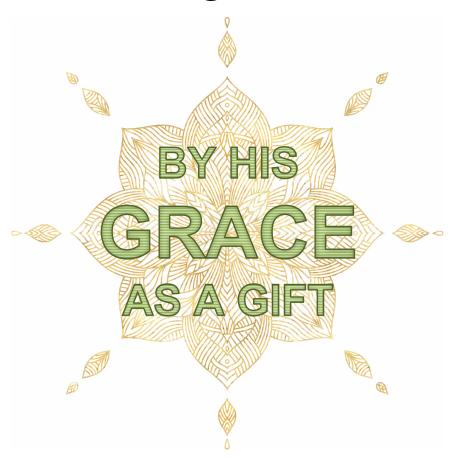
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# BELIEVE



"The Bible is most of all a story. It's a love story about a brave Prince who leaves his palace, his throne - everything - to rescue the ones he loves. It's like the most wonderful of fairy tales that has come true in real life! It takes the whole Bible to tell this story. And at the center of the story, there is a [man]. Every story in the Bible whispers his name. He is like the missing piece in the puzzle - the piece that makes all the other pieces fit together, and suddenly you can see a beautiful picture."

## The Rescuing Work of God



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What is grace? Grace is love that seeks you out when you have nothing to give in return. Grace is love coming at you that has nothing to do with you. Grace is being loved when you are unlovable. It is being loved when you are the opposite of loveable. Let's go a little further. Grace is a love that has nothing to do with you, the beloved. It has everything and only to do with the lover. Grace is irrational in the sense that it has nothing to do with weights and measures...

Grace is one-way love. Watch other people.

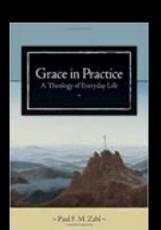
You will see it over and over:

One-way love lifts up.

One-way love cures.

One-way love transforms.

It is the change agent of life."



## The Rescuing Work of God



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As to means, God justifies us through an act of "redemption." The Greek word underlying "redemption" (apolytrosis) was applied to the money that a slave would pay in order to secure his or her freedom. The root idea is a "price paid for release."

The Jews who translated the Old Testament into Greek used words from this same Greek root for the release that God attained for the Israelites from their slavery in Egypt (Exod. 15:13; Deut. 9:26). In Christ, God paid a price to secure release from the ultimate slavery: slavery to sin (see 3:9)."

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#### Galatians 3:13

<sup>13</sup> Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole."

## Philippians 2:5-8

- <sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:
- <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; <sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.
- <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!



#### Titus 3:4-8

<sup>4</sup> But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,

#### Titus 3:4-8

<sup>7</sup> so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. 8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.







## Gospel Application

Is the kaleidoscope of God's rescue lighting up the world around you?