



# INTERSECTIONS

SERMON NOTES

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Judgment & Pardon

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Thank God for how great it is to be pardoned, freed,  
and adopted by God through His Son, Jesus

1. The "rightness" that God requires only comes by faith in Jesus,  
not religion

*Romans 3:21-22*

How do religions answer this question: "What must I do to be 'right'  
with my deity?"

2. Jesus accomplished your pardon, your freedom, and turned  
aside God's wrath at the cross

*Romans 3:22-25*

To be justified is "to be declared right"

Definition of "pardon" (v) - to use the executive power to forgive  
a person convicted of a crime, thus removing any remaining  
penalties or punishments and preventing any new prosecution of  
the person for the crime for which the pardon was given

*2 Corinthians 5:21*

Definition of "redemption" - "the price paid for release" (slavery term)

The concept of atonement meant that Jesus' sacrifice "turned  
aside the wrath of God" that could only be satisfied by the shed  
blood of the sinless God-man who bore the sin of the world

*"Paul has thus pressed into service the language of the law court ('justified'), the slave-market ('redemption') and the altar ('atoning sacrifice') in the attempt to do justice to the fullness of God's gracious act in Christ. Pardon, liberation, atonement - all are made available to men and women by his free initiative and may be appropriated by faith." FF Bruce*

3. The intersection of God's judgment and our pardon provides  
our adoption as God's own

*Romans 3:25-26*

forbearance - "of God releasing His judgment on sin in the OT  
when redeeming believers. This was based on the absolutely sure,  
upcoming sacrifice of Christ - 'retroactively applied' to them in  
God's immutable, eternal plan." [biblehub.com](http://biblehub.com)

*"But what the world did not count on was a God who was both  
just and a justifier of the guilty. No one goes free without the  
penalty being paid. It is just that no one imagined that the judge  
would also pay the price." Boa & Kruidenier*

*Galatians 4:4-7*

"In adoption, God takes us into his family and fellowship—he  
establishes us as his children and heirs. Closeness, affection and  
generosity are at the heart of the relationship. To be right with  
God the Judge [justification] is a great thing, but to be loved and  
cared for by God the Father [adoption] is a greater."  
J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

**Now What?**

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