

The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God

²⁵ who (Jesus) was delivered up for of our transgressions,
and was raised for of our justification.

(Romans 4:25)

Essence of the Gospel

➤ Context

- Paul defends justification by faith alone by the example of Abraham
- Not a generic faith but faith in the promise and work of God now fulfilled in Jesus
- Paul concludes by restating the basis of our justification – the death and resurrection of Jesus

Essence of the Gospel

1. Jesus was *“handed over for our transgressions”*

- it was God the Father who handed Jesus over to death for us (cf. Rom. 8:32)
- Jesus' death was the penalty of God's just retribution for our sin (cf. Rom. 3:25)

Essence of the Gospel

2. Jesus was *“raised for our justification”*

A. Righteousness of God

- as ruler and judge of the earth, God acts to restore right order in His good creation
- includes both his saving activity and his retributive justice (salvation through judgment)
- not merely the pronouncement of justice but the enactment of justice

Essence of the Gospel

2. Jesus was *“raised for our justification”*

B. Justification of Sinners

- a verdict (declared righteous) expressed in a vindicating action

- 14 "In righteousness you will be established;
You will be far from oppression, for you will not fear;
And from terror, for it will not come near you.
- 15 "If anyone fiercely assails *you* it will not be from Me.
Whoever assails you will fall because of you.
- 16 "Behold, I Myself have created the smith who blows the fire of
coals and brings out a weapon for its work;
And I have created the destroyer to ruin.
- 17 "No weapon that is formed against you will prosper;
And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn.
This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD,
And their vindication is from Me," declares the LORD.

(Isaiah 54:14-17)

Essence of the Gospel

2. Jesus was "*raised for our justification*"

B. Justification of Sinners

- a verdict (declared righteous) expressed in a vindicating action
- it entails deliverance and life – the enactment of the verdict in our resurrection

Essence of the Gospel

2. Jesus was "*raised for our justification*"

C. Resurrection of Jesus

- Christ's resurrection is the vindicating act of God in which He is justified and we are justified
- God's verdict for us is present and manifest in the resurrection of Jesus

Essence of the Gospel

- The essence of the gospel is the death AND resurrection of Jesus – the gift of God's righteousness by faith alone