

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE DECLARED RIGHTEOUS

God promises to complete the work of righteousness in all persons He began His work in at their new birth. New birth is given to a repentant heart which cooperates with the Holy Spirit and comes to faith in Christ alone for salvation. Read Philippians 1:6

God imputes righteousness to the new born believer means that God credits the believer with the righteousness which the Spirit will produce in that believer through sanctification, and God credits the believer with Holy Spirit sin removal which is complete at separation of the new creation from the physical body of flesh and blood. The born again believer is sinless after physical death.

Philippians 3:9 Be found in Him, not having my own righteousness from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.

Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.

Philippians 3:10 I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to Him in His death.

Revelation 19:8 And to the church was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

Romans 4:24b Righteousness will be credited to us who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.

The righteousness performed in the born again believer continues to be produced up until the day of Jesus Christ, the rapture of the church. The influence of the believer's life continues on after physical death. The influence of the thief on the cross next to Jesus continues on even today as people read the account and see the grace of God come to one who puts his faith in Jesus. The clothing of perfect righteousness given to the born again believer is real genuine righteousness produced by the Spirit in the life of the believer. It is not some imaginary righteousness which is granted outside of reality and is the experience of someone else.