

Theme: God is Yahweh-Tsidkenu - the One who defines, fulfills, and imputes righteousness to His people through Jesus, and then begins to produce righteous fruit in them by His Spirit.

I. Intro – Problem of Unrighteousness

- A. Jeremiah ministers at low point of Judah's history
- B. Priests are unrighteous (23:1-2)
- C. Kings wicked (23:5 - implied; contrast Zedekiah)
- D. City (whole covenant community) is wicked (33:5)
- E. How do we deal with unrighteousness?
- F. Yahweh Tsidkenu - (23:6; 33:16)

II. The Meaning of צַדִּיק

- A. צַדִּיק - righteous; just; meets standard
 - 1. Just, fair, right - Lev 19:15 (judges)
 - 2. According to standard - Lev 19:36 (scales)
- B. צַדִּיק in ethics - relative and absolute
 - 1. Relative - Righteous and wicked - Mal 3:18
 - 2. Absolute - No righteous - Romans 3:20
 - 3. This was the real problem

III. Why God is Yahweh-Tsidkenu

- A. His name is YHWH-Tsidkenu (23:6; 33:16)
- B. God is righteous and standard (Ps 145:17)

- 1. God is righteous in conduct (Psa 145:17)
- 2. God does not meet standard - He IS standard
- 3. Law - God's character published
- C. The coming Branch of righteousness
 - 1. The coming King of righteousness (23:5-6)
 - 2. The coming Branch - Jer 33:15; Isa 11:1-5
- D. Jesus is Yahweh-Tsidekenu
 - 1. Life fulfills righteousness (Mat 5:17)
 - 2. Death imputes righteousness (2Co 5:21; Phi 3:9)
- E. Spirit produces righteous fruit in us
 - 1. Put off old, put on new like God (Eph 4:22-24)
 - 2. We are named Lord Our Righteousness (Jer 33:16)
 - 3. Gospel of justification - He is our righteousness!
 - 4. Even our sanctification point to Him!!

IV. Applying the Word

- A. Do we see the importance of righteousness?
 - 1. It is often not valued in our culture
 - 2. It is often seen in relative terms - not related to God
 - 3. Believers must see righteousness critical

B. Do we see our level of righteousness?

1. We can have relative ethical righteousness
2. We do not have absolute judicial righteousness
3. The law of God shows this to us

C. Do we see that the Lord is our righteousness?

1. He provides absolute judicial righteousness
2. He begins to develop ethical righteousness
3. Justification (judicial) & sanctification (ethical)

D. Communion - The Lord Our Righteousness

1. Christ offers His righteousness to us
2. Spirit empowers us to grow in righteous fruit
3. Come to the Table

Yahweh Tsidkenu - The Lord Our Righteousness

Jeremiah 23:5-6; 33:15-16

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

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Communion

Numbers 6:24-26

"Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!" declares the LORD. 2 Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: "Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done," declares the LORD. Jeremiah 23:1-2

They will be filled with the dead bodies of the men I will slay in my anger and wrath. **I will hide my face from this city because of all its wickedness.** Jeremiah 33:5

Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great, but judge your neighbor **fairly.** Leviticus 19:15

Use **honest** scales and **honest** weights, an **honest** ephah and an **honest** hin. I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt. Leviticus 19:36

And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not. Malachi 3:18

Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. Romans 3:20

The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made. Psalm 145:17

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him...3He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; 4but **with righteousness he will judge the needy,** with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth... 5 **Righteousness will be his belt** and faithfulness the sash around his waist. Isaiah 11:1-5

Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. Matthew 5:17

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ--the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. Philippians 3:9

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:22-24

"Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!" declares the LORD. 2 Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: "Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done," declares the LORD. 3 "I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and will bring them back to their pasture, where they will be fruitful and increase in number. 4 I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing," declares the LORD. 5 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. 6 In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness. Jeremiah 23:1-6