(Topics and Lead-in Below) By Faith in Jesus Christ

TUNE: All Glory, Laud, and Honor (ST. THEODULPH)



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TOPICS: Atonement; Church; Faith; Holiness; Lent-Easter; Living in Christ; Peace in

Christ; Resurrection

LEAD-IN: There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because

through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of

sin and death. (Romans 8:1-2, NIV)

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

The Just Will Live by Faith

"How can someone as weak and inconsistent as I possibly please a holy God?" Romans chapters 1 - 8 offer so much wonderful, life-giving assurance.

- We do not obey God by keeping a list of rules. The rules are important, but we can't obey them by our own efforts. We cannot please God that way (Romans 7:7-25). Our obedience is "the obedience of faith" (Romans 1:5). God wants just this: He wants us to trust Him, and to live out that trust.
- As we trust Him step by step, God changes us into the Christ-like persons He wants us to be. We change, not by determined efforts at self-reform, but by trusting God (Romans 1:16-17).
- We don't become right with God by trying to make our lives right with Him. We become right with God the same way Abraham did: by trusting God (Romans 4). As we trust Jesus Christ, He nurtures a living relationship with us. He lives His holy life in us as we trust Him (Romans 5 8).

All God's promises, all His holiness, all His power flow through us and grow in us as we trust in Him. *Righteousness from God is by faith from first to last...The righteous will live by faith* (Romans 1:17, NIV).

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