## The Just Will Live by Faith

"How can someone as weak and inconsistent as I possibly please a holy God?" Romans chapters 1 – 8 offers 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 only 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).

Hymn: By Faith in Jesus Christ (ST. THEODULPH)

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