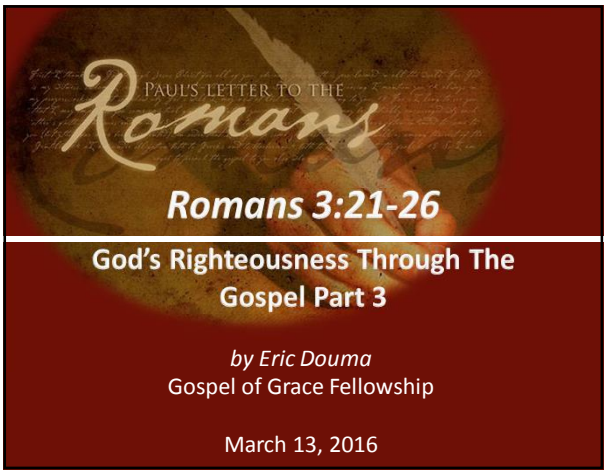

The "Five Solas" in Romans 3:21-26

Romans 3:21-26 But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; 25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

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God's Purpose in Christ's Death

Romans 3:25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed…

- **His righteousness** = God's own moral integrity associated here with His justice.
- **because** = dia – causal preposition showing the reason why God's righteousness needed to be demonstrated.
- **…the sins previously committed** = historically before the cross of Christ.

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God's Purpose in Christ's Death

Romans 3:26 …for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that **He would be just and the justifier** of the one who has faith in Jesus.

- **for…so that** = purpose statements
- **at the present time** = links back to "but now" vs. 21
- **just and justifier** = God's justice and grace met at the cross.
- **the one who has faith in Jesus** = no mixture of works and faith is allowed!

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The Emphasis on Faith Alone

Romans 3:21-26 But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; 25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

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Applications

1. We must understand how Christ's death glorified God by upholding God's justice and mercy.
2. We must know that God is glorified in the display of both His mercy and justice.
3. We must know that God tolerated evil to glorify His name.

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1. Christ Glorifies God at the Cross

Romans 2:24 For, as it is written, "The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you."

Romans 3:23 or all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God…

Psalm 89:14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; lovingkindness and truth go before You.

God's justice is paid. + God's mercy is provided.

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2. God Is Glorified in Judgment and Salvation

Romans 9:22-24 NKJV What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, 23 and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory, 24 even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

Glorified in judgment:

Romans 9:17 ESV For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."

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2. God Is Glorified in Judgment and Salvation

Glorified in salvation:

Luke 2:20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Acts 13:48 When the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

Revelation 16:9 Men were scorched with fierce heat; and they blasphemed the name of God who has the power over these plagues, and they did not repent so as to give Him glory.

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3. God Tolerated Evil for the Sake of His Name

Why did God allow evil?

Romans 3:25-26 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

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