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Under the banner of Heightened Perspective: **Spiritual Warfare** views the Breastplate of Righteousness as essential for preserving the heart of every believer who has been born again and established in Righteousness through Christ. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

This verse is a declaration of The Gospel of Justification. It reads, *“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”*

The Gospel of Justification declares that believers are positionally and permanently in right standing with God. That we are declared Righteous defines our nature and lifestyle, and our eternal destiny. (Romans 5:1-2; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:30)

NATURE

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. (Romans 5:1-2; 2 Corinthians 5:17)

LIFESTYLE

Therefore, I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:1-2)

DESTINY

For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified. (Romans 8:29-30)

What does it mean to be in right standing with God?

In right standing with God makes it impossible for believers to be condemned to eternal destruction. Why? **Romans 8:1** says, *“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”*

Righteousness not only defines and declares the Gospel of Justification. It also depicts and directs the Gospel of Sanctification.

What is the Gospel of Sanctification?

The Gospel of Sanctification is the outward manifestation of the righteous nature, character, and course of every believer’s life expressed through their daily choice to be empowered, directed, developed, and matured through the Person and Power of the Holy Spirit.

The Gospel of Sanctification is married to the Gospel of Justification, directing the course of Practical Righteousness. As we have learned in Bible Study, Practical Righteousness is the day-to-day, progressive, and perpetual work of the Holy Spirit manifesting through our intentional decisions to live out of our Positional Righteousness in Christ. It is God in Christ directing us to live through the indwelling Presence of His Holy Spirit. It is not us trying to live a holy and righteous life. It is God in Christ, living through us as we yield each member of our bodies to His control.