

'The Righteousness of God is Revealed from Faith to Faith'

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith" (Rom. 1:16, 17).

Some would make the "righteousness of God" in this text synonymous with "justification." *That is all right, if they do not limit the application of the text to the moment of justification from past transgression.* It is the application of the law in Christ to the life of the transgressor that justifies him. Through the redemption, which is in Christ Jesus, God by his grace counts the past life of the sinner who believes as though it had been in every respect, in accord with his law. (Rom. 3:25). This is justification. It is the revelation, or manifestation, through the gospel, of the righteousness of God. (Rom. 3:21, 22). But *the text says that this is revealed "from faith to faith;" and this can mean nothing else but a progressive work of righteousness. The verse teaches that the righteousness of God is revealed from one degree of faith to a higher degree of faith, and consequently that righteousness must ever be on the increase.* This is shown by the quotation, which the apostle makes to prove his statement. It must be that the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith, he argues, because it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

(Excerpted Paragraph from | "Living by Faith - Christian Growth" | Ellet J. Waggoner Bible Students Library | Dec. 1, 1890)