

**THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS: PART IV**  
**EPHESIANS 6:10-20**  
**JUNE 7, 2009**

*Questions for Study & Reflection*

1. The substitutionary atonement of Christ, which we dealt with last week, is a glorious thing but in itself it's not enough to fully reconcile us to God. Why not? What else has to be established before God in order for us to be reconciled to him?
2. To be righteous before God means to be rightly related to him and to do all he requires, or to be rightly related to him and display that fact by obeying all his commands. What is the relationship between obedience to God and being in right relationship with God? Why does one slip into disobedience destroy our relationship with God and thus our righteousness?
3. Pastor Charlie said that there are only two ways to establish righteousness before God: to display an inherent righteousness wherein we had always and only been obedient to God, or to be the beneficiary of a righteousness imputed to us from the outside. Do you think it's possible to display inherent righteousness? Do you think the Catholics are right in arguing for "imparted righteousness"? (See Rom 3:20-26, Gal 2:16, & Eph 2:4-10.)
4. Read 2 Cor 5:21. What does it mean to say that God the Father made Jesus to be sin? What does it mean to say that, in him, we who believe become the righteousness of God? (See Phil 3:8b-9.)
5. What are the implications for your life that Jesus Christ has atoned for your sins and accomplished righteousness on your behalf? (See Rom 8:1-4, 31-39.)