

Pursuing Righteousness: Arguments about Righteousness
(John 9:16, 1:6-13; Mt.21:23-31, 3:1-17; Luke 1:11-17)

Quench Life Christian Fellowship

Sunday, August 16, 2026

Pastor Robert L. Scott, Jr.

A. How has _____ for _____?

1. He sent _____.

*John 1:4-8 In him was life, and **that life was the light of all mankind.** ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ **There was a man sent from God whose name was John.** ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, **so that through him all might believe.** ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. NIV*

*Luke 1:17 And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to **make ready a people prepared for the Lord.**” NIV*

*Matthew 3:1-2, 5-6 In those days **John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea** ² and saying, “**Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.**” ⁵ People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶ **Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.** NIV*

2. He _____ as an _____.

*Matthew 3:13-15 Then **Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.** ¹⁴ But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵ **Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.”** Then John consented. NIV*

3. He _____ from _____.

*Matthew 3:16-17 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ **And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”** NIV*

*John 9:16 **Some of the Pharisees said, “This man Jesus is not from God, for he is working on the Sabbath.” Others said, “But how could an ordinary sinner do such miraculous signs?”** So there was a **deep division of opinion among them.** NLT*

4. He _____ His _____ through _____.

*1 Corinthians 10:13 **No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.** NIV*

1 Corinthians 10:13 You are tempted **in the same way that everyone else is tempted**. But **God can be trusted** not to let you be tempted too much, and **he will show you how to escape** from your temptations. CEV

B. What can _____ do to _____ in the _____ of righteousness?

1. Don't _____ the _____ of Jesus Christ in your _____.

Matthew 21:23 Jesus entered the temple courts, and, **while he was teaching**, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. **"By what authority are you doing these things?"** they asked. **"And who gave you this authority?"** NIV

Matthew 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, **"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."** ¹⁹ **Therefore go and make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and **teaching them to obey** everything I have commanded you. And **surely I am with you always**, to the very end of the age." NIV

2. Don't be _____ about your _____ with Jesus Christ.

Matthew 21:24-27 Jesus replied, "I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵ **John's baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?**" They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, **'Then why didn't you believe him?'**" ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin'—**we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.**" ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, **"We don't know."** Then he said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. NIV

3. When you _____ be sure to _____.

Matthew 21:28-29 "What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.' ²⁹ **"I will not," he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.** NIV

1 John 1:9 **If we confess our sins**, he is faithful and just and **will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.** NIV

4. Understand that it _____ to your _____ to _____ God's Word.

Matthew 21:30-32 "Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, **'I will, sir,' but he did not go.**" ³¹ **"Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered.** Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For **John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him**, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And **even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.** NIV

John 3:16, 19 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, **that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.** ¹⁹ **This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.** NIV