

January 18, 2026

Pastor Andy McClellan

Title: "Are There Any Righteous?"

Series: Genesis: Beginnings

Text: Genesis 18:16-33

1. God reveals His **PLAN** and righteous **WAY** to His chosen people, vv. 16-21
(see also 12:3; Deuteronomy 10:12-13; Psalm 103:7; Amos 3:7; John 15:15; Galatians 3:8; Ephesians 1:4-9).
2. God invites His people to **APPEAL** to His righteous **CHARACTER**, vv. 22-33
(see also Exodus 34:6-7; Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:9-13; Hebrews 4:15-16; James 5:15; 1 John 5:14-15).
3. God offers **MERCY** to the unrighteous because of the **WORK** of the Righteous One, vv. 24-32
(see also 15:6; Isaiah 53:11; Romans 3:10-12; 4:2-5; 5:18-19; 2 Corinthians 5:20-21; Gal. 3:6-9; 1 Peter 3:18; Heb. 7:25).

FOR FURTHER STUDY & DISCUSSION

1. Reports say that Scott Adams, the creator of *Dilbert*, accepted Christ near the end of his life. While we can't judge the state of someone else's heart, what can we say with confidence about faith and salvation? What should we leave in God's hands? What does that reveal about the nature and character of God, and how do we know it? Where have you seen this demonstrated in your own life?
2. Read Gen. 18:16-33 and make a list of the questions that are asked by both God and Abraham (Hint: vv. 17-18, 23-25, 28-32). When have you asked similar questions of God? How does this passage answer those questions? What truths about God, the righteous, and the unrighteous can be gleaned from those answers?
3. In verses 23-33, Abraham's appeal to God reflects both fear and boldness. What statements does Abraham make that demonstrate a healthy fear of God? In what ways does he show boldness? How is his request grounded in what he understands about God's character? What requests are you currently bringing before God? Following Abraham's example, and using the cross-references from Point 2 above, write a prayer that expresses both humility and confidence before God, grounded in His character. Then...pray.
4. In this passage, God's willingness to extend mercy appears to be in response to Abraham's intercession for the "righteous" in Sodom. Yet Romans 3:10-12 teaches that no one is righteous. How, then, can Abraham be called righteous? Whose righteousness was credited to him (see Gen. 15:6; Rom. 4:2-5)? In light of this, explain how both Abraham's ability to intercede and God's offer of mercy ultimately rest on the righteousness of Jesus. Now, apply this truth personally. In what ways does your life depend on the righteousness of Christ? How does this make the Gospel truly Good News for you?

NEXT WEEK: Genesis 19:1-38

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