

CNL Season 2009

12.1S - The Lord is My Righteousness Part 1

Transcription

The Lord is my righteousness. If you'll go inside your bulletins and find this outline, I pray that today and next week this study will change your life. Jehovah Jireh is our what? Provider! Well, today is Tsidkenu Canoe and he is going to provide his word for us today for us to understand the characteristic of his, which is going to alter our lives. We've also looked at Jehovah Rapha, who is what? The healer! Can you all remember any others, which we have done? In fact, these are little memory tricks, but of course, Nissi, the Banner, which went before us. Jehovah Sabaoth, he's God of the what? Battle! Which interestingly enough was the first sermon we did after September 11th, and we had planned it for that day. It was God's providence when we did that. Many of the studies, which we have done, though, understanding the names of God, I will repeat. Why do we want to know the names of God and what they mean? I'll tell you.. . it's because, when you know his names, it is more intimate when you talk with him, because you understand his characteristics and it's the same as when a husband walks up to his wife and puts his arms around her and says "Hello, beautiful." Well, the bottom line is, at that moment, he's identifying her, but he is also identifying a characteristic about her that he loves. When we pray, if we're in a time of needing, maybe we need the God of Battle, because we're in a battle in our lives, a battle for our lives, or for our family, or whatever it is. Then approach him as Jehovah Sabaoth, God of the Battle. So, today, I encourage you, we're going to have, now, the Lord, who is my righteousness, is what this name means and we're going to find how important it is to approach God, dealing with his righteousness. I will tell you, we learned in the last couple of days (laughing) — you know, once again, we had the moment to cry out to the God who sees. Do you all remember what — I did it for the last couple of weeks — the God who sees? What's the Hebrew for that? (In unison) El Roi, the God who sees. He's always watching, he's watching over his children. We drove to Houston; I literally got here 5 minutes before it was time for me to preach the message, because I was, once again, at a wrestling

meet. They have these state wide meets all the time in ... My Josiah, my oldest son, is 13, but he's a wrestler and it's not the kind that is on TV, it's the college kind, free style wrestling, like you see in the Olympics, and so he is going out for wrestling and he's very, very fast, very strong fellow, and he's very focused, and, so, he's been doing very well in wrestling and I've been wanting to go and watch him when he wrestles, and sometimes it was in Austin. Always all over the State of Texas. It never seems to be here in San Antonio. But, we drove yesterday to Houston and as we were driving, I drove the majority of the way, but, the last leg of the trip I had Maria drive and actually it was on Friday night, because the wrestling meet was on Saturday, because I had to get here right after the meet. Saturday, ie meet goes from about 8:00 in the morning until about 3:00 in the afternoon, and it's a round robin thing. I don't know if you've ever seen wrestling matches, but what you do is you wrestle and then if you win you move up to the next elimination category. They have about 150 kids that are wrestling and then it comes down to whoever is in the championship and that's the fourth round. Well, we're driving up there and I shift places with Maria, right toward the end, and she is driving along, it's dark streets, but as you're getting into Houston, and if you've been on the toll — I cannot believe they actually still have toll roads, but they have — Praise the Lord, we don't have a group of people in charge of San Antonio, that want to put in toll roads, because every two miles, right when you're getting up to speed, you've got to come back down, and have to throw in your 4 quarters. You've got to pay a buck every two and a half miles, which is mind blowing that they even have those things, and so we are driving along and Maria is driving along and has just gotten back up to speed and she's going about 65 or 70 miles and hour, whatever is allowed on the speedway there, and there are cars all around us. It is like 5:00 in the afternoon, except at high speed here in San Antonio, and all of a sudden, I'm sitting in the back seat and all of a sudden, Maria and one of the children is in the front seat, and a couple of children are next to me, and then we hear this (makes noise) scraping noise, it sounds like under the car, to the back, and suddenly "bang", there is this explosion and the car begins to weave slightly and, of course, Maria, as it

begins to weave a little more, tries to go against where it's weaving, and the back of the car begins to weave back and forth. Just kind of feels like it's floating, and then pretty soon, while we're doing this, of course, we're just barely missing these cars to the left and the right of us, and she is weaving back and forth, and she's flying full steam ahead, and she is so petrified, she doesn't realize she has now hit the gas as we're weaving and she's screaming out "Peter, do something. Peter, do something." Well, (laughing) I'm flattered in her belief of my abilities, but (laughing) from the back seat, there's nothing but "El Roi, El Roi", everybody! So, we're praying like crazy and I'm saying "Honey, just kind of hold the wheel steady" and, of course, she's doing the normal thing, she's going against the turn to try to straighten out. Well, before we know it, as we're flying forward, we see cars zipping past us and she begins — we all begin to — the last time she tries to go against the flipping in the back, she turns and suddenly, the car begins to spin around. We're spinning around, back and forth, left to the right, over four lanes of this highway, and as — (noise of a car going by fast) — just like in the movies, except this is NOT the movies, and we are in — and she is saying "Peter — Peter", like, I'm not sure what she wanted me to do but I just laid my hands on her and said "We're getting out of the car, see you later", no, not really, but (laughing) it was bizarre, and finally we — and it's making a squealing sound, like — and I can tell by now that one of the tires has, basically, been ripped off, and it's nothing but metal back there and grinding against the road as we're spinning, and we continue spinning until we finally slow up and we're rolling backwards across the lanes, toward this grassy area, and I'm thinking "well, praise Lord, we'll get off the highway", because these cars had missed us and we see this big 16 or 18 wheeler rolling — I mean flying toward us, going (noises like braking) and it's starting to buck like that and I'm saying "Oh, good, we're getting out of the way" and Maria, right at this time hits the brakes and we stop. (laughing) So I say, "No, keep going backwards" and she says "it won't start", and so I jump up and put it in reverse and now, I actually do something, I put it in reverse and I say "Now, hit the gas" and so we finally get out of the way and the truck passes us and it was just a moment near glory (laughing), and, but I have to tell

you the truth, you know, we sat there as a family, just staring at each other and we starting praising the Lord that we were in one piece and a fellow finally came along and we changed the tire and — we had a tire that, fortunately, the men of the ministry had replaced another tire that had gone out the week before, and I'm not sure who's doing what to my tires, but (laughing) anyway, it was just a moment in time, but I'll tell you, it was one of those times that we were just calling out to El Roi. It was a thing like "God, we know you see us here and we know that you can protect us" and, he did, he kept us in one piece. So, I tell you, the tournament, which was an exciting tournament, I tell you the truth, it was hard to top that moment, as far as — and Gideon, it was his birthday and he say's "Dad, this is the best birthday I've ever had — I'll never forget this birthday" and I said "Good, it saved me some money". (laughing) Anyway, the wrestling meet was still exciting and it was really neat because Joe was going to wrestle four really tough guys, but the last one was one, I'll just tell you this, the last one was the most well known of all of the wrestlers that was going to wrestle against him, he's one of these state-wise guys that has a reputation already at the age of 15, I think. He was wrestling Joe at 14. Real muscular kid and everything else, and the first three — it was really neat — Joe and I — I'm not bragging on Joe, but I'll just tell you, because it's going to be point #3, I'm going to teach you something actually with this, but the first match he won — he pinned the guy in 30 seconds, the second match he pinned the guy in 15 seconds, and the third round he pinned the guy in 8 seconds, and so I thought "he's hot today, he can take on this guy" and I'm talking to him and saying "You're steel and lightning, you're steel and lightning! Crush him, destroy him — Oh, yeah, we'll witness to him later", but anyway, it was amazing, Joe goes up there and he grabs them and throws them down there and pins him. Well, this other guy is really tough and it turned out to be a full three rounds that he had to go with this guy and it see-sawed back and forth and the last two seconds he was losing by 2 points. I mean he would gained 5 points and the guy would gain 7 points and he finally flipped the guy back over and got a reversal and he pinned him and he ended up winning the whole title there, but I tell you, it was one of those weekends where I

was glad I had been exercising and making my heart a little stronger, because, Man, by the time the car thing and by the time that wrestling match was over, I was really worn out and then flying back here (within the speed limit), (laughter) somewhere within it, with a tire I wasn't sure about, to get here and preach last night, but I have to tell you, it was so that we could have a study today on the righteousness of God, and I will tell you, I want you to remember Tsidkenu, because it's kind of a tough Hebrew word to remember. Just remember the most righteous person you can imagine, a really godly person, and imagine him standing there almost glowing and his name is Sid and just have him standing, of course, in a long boat called a what? A canoe! So that is where Tsidekenu (sounds like Sid Canoe) comes in. Just remember that somehow you can connect that to the word "righteous", maybe you guys witness a lot or something, then you'll remember the words "Tsidekenu" in Hebrew. But it's going to be a very important study, so let's start it by filling in blank #1 — What is righteousness? Well, it is basically to be made right with God. To be made right. That is why it is Right —ous- ness. And if you will circle the — in the headline where it says The Lord is my righteousness — circle the word "Right" (within that word). It is to be made right with God. If you have ever had a fight with a friend and you said you wanted to "get right" with my buddy, with my friend, what are you basically saying? I want to get forgiven, I want him to forgive me, I want to forgive him, I want to get things cleared out and straight.. .Right? You want to get things straight with him, but did you know that is what the word "righteous" means? It means, basically, it comes from a Hebrew word, "Sedak " — which means to be righteous or to have a straightness, a rigidity to you. Do you remember when we were in Psalms 23 a couple of weeks ago and it talks about how I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever, but if you go back in that verse, it talks about paths of righteousness for his names sake. I'll walk in the paths of righteousness — do you know what kind of paths those are — those paths of righteousness? That means they are straight paths. They don't delineate left or right. It means they are totally focused on a goal. If you look at a racetrack, if you've ever been to drag races, how much do they wind? They don't wind at all. You go to the drag

racers, it's a straight line from point A to point B, and so the paths of righteousness, as we begin to understand, to be right with somebody means I want to have a straight relationship with them, no more weaving. Now some of you may have relationships with people that are kind of weaving, they're not really honest. You're a little dishonest with them, you don't really tell them the full truth, maybe even spouses, to each other. When you don't have a righteous relationship, you know why? Because it's a weaving relationship. You're always having to kind of dodge and, you know, get out of the way and not deal with certain issues. That's the kind of relationship you have, but God says if you want to have a righteous relationship with me, it's a straight relationship. Be honest with me, open up to me. If you want to have a righteous relationship with your spouse, with your family, be straight with them. We even use that English word, don't we? To be straight with somebody..is to go from point A to point B, don't weave a lot. Don't deceive. Have you ever been wounded when somebody you loved deceived you? Do you know why? Because you thought your relationship was righteous, but it was weaving. It wasn't straight, and so I want to encourage you, today, make sure that your relationship with God and others is righteous, it doesn't weave, it's not dishonest, but you go from point A to point B, just tell the truth and nothing but the truth and God will help you. So, we want to make things right with a friend. That means we want to be unhindered in our relationship. Now, we're going to look at Israel at a time in life when they were not righteous. I want you to read, if you will, Jeremiah 5, with me. It's under point #1. "An appalling thing, a horrible thing has happened in the land; The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule on their own authority and my people love it so: and they have healed the brokenness of my people, superficially, saying peace — peace, but there is no peace." Today in pulpits all around the world, liberal Christianity has brought us to a point where the bible really isn't true, they say. Where God really isn't God, and where Jesus didn't, literally, raise from the dead, and where all religions are the same, or they may just say "feel good about yourselves, have peace". What they're doing is — it's cycle babble. They're trying to give people peace, but it's not the peace that passes all

understanding. I will tell you that the only true peace comes from Jehovah Shalom, God who is peace. Because the rest of the peace is superficial, folks, it doesn't stick. It doesn't last — there is no hope in superficial peace and, unfortunately, the authorities in Israel at that time were saying "just feel good", but they were false prophets, they were false shepherds, and there is much false theology being taught around the world today. We need to be very careful to be studying God's word and have a straight relationship, and if he says it's wrong, folks, it's wrong. If the bible teaches a certain moral practices are wrong, I don't care if it's politically correct, or politically incorrect, if God says it's wrong, it's wrong. God says how to rule your land and it is either right or wrong the way that you're doing it. In other words, righteousness is not always finding an excuse in the dodge ball game with God, but just simply dealing strictly with God on what is true. I think we need that in our nation, we need that in our lives. God is looking for a people of consistency. It reminds me of a girl that goes for a job interview. She sits down and puts her resume in front of this guy that she wants to hire her. As he is reading the resume, he goes "Lady, you know there is about 8 pages here, and you have about 50 jobs listed here and every one of them you lasted like 5 days. This is unbelievable. Just page after page, and you've been fired from every one of them. Why would you even bother to give me this with this kind of record?" She said, "Well, I wanted to show you at least one thing that's good about me." He then asked her, "Well, what's good about you?" She said, "Well, you know I'm not a "quitter". (laughter) You don't have time to quit, you've been fired from every job, but consistency is something that God is looking for in you and me. So today, I am going to challenge you, righteousness is going to have something to do, a lot to do with consistency, and I'll tell you why. Because, if we only want to go on how our feelings are, if we didn't feel that way, but we're not looking at what God says in his word. Read Jeremiah 17-9: "The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick, who can understand it?" Have you ever had emotions that you say to yourself, you don't know why you feel the way you do? Have you ever had that moment? You and I can't really understand our heart. I'm going to tell you, outside of God's guidance, we will remain

bewildered. We will remain completely off center. We can no longer just depend upon our emotions, because our hearts, if you depend upon our heart's emotions, it's actually going to deceive us. It is deceitful. Now it is going to come down to this Jeremiah 23 passage, as we go into our study. Would you read it with me? "This is his name, by which he will be called "The Lord, Our Righteousness — Tsidkenu" That's how you spell Tsidkenu — in English, of course, but would you circle the word "Our" in front of the word righteousness there? Just circle the word "our". Now, I want to tell you. . .you would assume that God was righteous, right? I mean, that's a taken for granted moment. You know, you say God is righteous, of course, God is righteous! But what's interesting about this is — in translation doesn't it say that God is righteous? It says God is our righteousness. Now I want to tell you, it is the personalization of an attribute of God into your lives, which makes the Christian faith unique. We don't just have a God way out there. We have a God who came to earth and died for us. Amen? We didn't just have a God way out there, who is not watching. God is watching us from a distance; it's not like the song. Oh, God is watching us, he is dwelling with us here, he came to dwell with man. That's why you circled the word "our", because God is not just a righteous God out there and we're unrighteous, which is predictable, but he somehow became our righteousness. We, somehow now, have the attribute of righteousness, which is a characteristic of God and that is a gift and that makes it a very personal relationship that we have with God when he came to man, even though we're in such a sinful state, and so I want to tell you, today, the most important thing that you and I have — the most important job we have in life and this is going to be outlined by the name "our righteousness" is to develop that relationship with God. The most important thing that you have when you wake up in the morning, is to get closer to God that day, than you ever been before. You and I have a duty just to get closer to God. Did you know the relationship Adam and Eve had in the Garden, originally, with God? It was fellowship. That's why God made man, did you know that? The Greek word is "koinonia", can you all say that? You've probably heard that before in bible study. It means fellowship. It's one of the words actually used for Church, also. Koinonia,

fellowship, is why God made man. For fellowship, for friendship, for a relationship, and you and I have the obligation to wake up and every day get closer to God. That's why we have that day, is for developing a relationship. Now, stick with me — just stick with me, just stay with me, don't let any distractions distract you. We need to get closer to God, every day, because if you don't get closer to God every day, you're really not doing what God has called you to do with your life. The thing is — you say “well, what about my family?, what about my work?, what about - Well, of course, you have those things, but the point is that if you use every moment of your day to get closer to God, those things that didn't make sense before, will make sense now. The things that you didn't understand before, you'll understand now. (laughter) Let me tell you, (baby yelling) That's all right, I've had pour children and love every one of them. They've had that moment, all of a sudden.. ..O.K, does anybody remember what I said in that last 30 seconds? (laughter) It's all right, hey, it's not their fault.. .they're babies, that's all right. Now, if adults were doing that and they were adults, then I'd .. .(laughter). But, the key about it — God being our righteousness — (laughter) I don't even know what I talked about the last 30 seconds. (laughter) Oh, yeah! Well, what's important is that we develop a relationship with God, get closer to him every day, because I'm going to tell you the truth, if you say “but, I want to spend my time making sense of life”, you're not going to make sense of life, but if you get a relationship going with God, which is correct, things will make sense, because you'll now have the mind of Christ and the mind of Christ understands, sees, knows everything. You know, a lot of times you say, “Well, I just don't have time to spend with God”. Well, I'm going to tell you, if you don't have time to spend with God, then you are over-booked. You're over-booked, and maybe what you're doing is hiding the issue, - “I'll just kind of hide it”. The other night we went to this very nice restaurant. We'd been invited out to dinner and went to this really nice restaurant and we sat down, everyone was really courteous when we walked in, really an elaborate thing. I was sitting there chewing gum and all of a sudden I realized it and Maria said “make sure you take your gum out before we go to dinner tonight”, but I had forgotten about it, so anyway, I

go ahead and raise my hand to my mouth and take the gum out and then I sit there and wonder what to do with this thing, so I just kind of sit there and roll it and think “all right”, I hate to do this, but I reach up under the table (laughter). I shouldn’t tell you all this because I know your whole image of me is blown, but I reach up under the table, and as I reach up to stick that gum on there, it’s like there’s heat or something at the bottom of this table. It feels like it’s all bubbled up and as I’m sitting there, kind of moving my hand on the bottom I realize there must be 10, 000 pieces of gum. I can’t find a flat place to stick my gum. (laughter) I end up having to stick my gum to gum. There was gum all over this thing and I’m thinking “everybody has had this same moment in time when they realize they shouldn’t be chewing gum” and they’ve gone ahead and — some of them still felt kind of wet, too, so it was really gross (laughter from congregation), but anyway, I stuck that gum- that was just — freak you out, but it kind of helped my diet - I didn’t eat much that night, but I went ahead and stuck that gum under there and I just felt so bad. That’s kind of how sin is, isn’t that true. Everyone else is doing it so I might as well do it. But, you know the thing about this is that when you first walk in, every things just looks so pristine and beautiful, but the funny thing is that nobody sees the gum because it’s under the table. Now, the way that God really knows our hearts is we think God sees us the way that everyone else does. They see us and think “Boy, what a nice restaurant, it is so orderly”, but God doesn’t just see above the table, God also sees under the table. Are you all with me? So, we have to live our lives with the reality that God is looking from underneath, as well as from above. I think that this will help us, because God is saying “be straight with me, be honest with me. I know where all your gum is stuck. I know where you stuck every piece, so don’t try to hide it. Live honestly with me about it, because when you stop living in denial about what God knows, then you come to the place where you can deal with what he knows what you can do about it. But, that’s critical... .it’s critical for us, as “believers”, is that there is a place for that gum, you know, should be applied in your life, in my life, let’s make sure that we do it. So the very first thing that happens when we’re born again, we get right with God and he gives us righteousness — we’re

going to see how that happens — we make the commitment, it's called committing our lives to Christ.

Would you read Commitment #1 with me? We're going to read the six Commitments, by the way. This is a six- step study. I complete it next week. Do not miss next week. It'll blow your mind what we're going to do, but Commitment #1 is "I will commit my life to Christ". Would you read that again with me? "I will commit my life to Christ" and then read the next line, too. "The heart of the matter is the matter of the heart". Do you remember we showed you in the Tabernacle, we had built up a great big Brazen alter and we did, basically, built tabernacle here at this church. Remember how they did sacrifices? They followed this whole system, this whole priestly system. The High Priest would go to the altar and, of course, he would do all of the things he had to do and one time he would go behind this one area behind here, which is the Holy of Holies, and there would be the Ark and he would sprinkle blood. Well, God came to the place where the people are — he got the systems down great, but you're still corrupt. You're still living wickedly. You do all the ritual, but you're still living wickedly, and so he came to the place where he was saying to them, and do you know what you're going to have to do. You're going to have to change more than just ritual. We don't need more laws on you, we need more changes in your heart, so it came down to a harnessing, where God is going to have to alter the hearts of the people and to do that there was going to be an extreme cost involved, and as long as we remember there is an extreme cost, which is going to be Christ, we'll see, literally, why God loved us so much. #2

Commitment: Let's fill this in... .Righteousness can't be earned, because then it's called self-righteousness, or self-righteous. When, I say "Oh, Kathy is so self-righteous", or "Bob is so self-righteous", do you get a picture of a really nice person, or almost an ugly image, because self righteous is snobby, superior, better than thou? Is that what you get? Yeah? Well, that comes from the concept back from the Pharisees, were being who they were. They were Pharisees because they were self righteous, that's what Christ actually was disgusted about. You notice that he has lunch, dinner, tax collectors, some of the worst people in society, and yet, here the Pharisees, who seem the most

ritualistically perfect people, he was repulsed by. He equated them to serpents, and why? Do you know why? It was because they were self-righteous. Not just in the thing that “Hey, I’m better than you” but, it was self-righteous because they believed, they themselves, could earn their righteousness. Are you all with me? So, when you hear the phrase “self-righteous”, don’t forget, it’s a person who thinks by what they have done in life they are better than you, or better than God, because they are righteous and God is repulsed by self-righteous attitudes. What he wants is an attitude, which accumulates or acquires, actually, by repentance, true righteousness. In fact, would you look at this Matthew 5:20? I’m going to show you why this was an amazing moment to the Jews, when they heard this. Matthew 5:20 “For I say to you, that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter the Kingdom of Heaven”. See, these people thought by works, they were saved, and so when Jesus says “you have to be more righteous than the Pharisees” who actually count every knot in their rope to make sure it’s according to their laws and that they have to have the sash in the perfect place, and that they have to have the perfect location, whenever they have this little box that has the Scriptures written in it, it has to be there on their forehead and if they don’t have everything in perfect order, every day, they couldn’t have one soil on their garments, and they used to think “Wow, look how these guys are so — following all the laws — and we have to be more righteous than them?” That’s why the people thought this was a hopeless deal. What Jesus was saying was their righteousness was self-righteousness. They’ve added laws to my law, so that they look good, but there is more to it than that.. ..it’s not just adding more rules. Did you know, you’ve heard of the Ten Commandments? Human beings, over the years, began to write additional commandments so that they knew that they could fulfill the commandments and consider themselves more righteous. Let’s add a few thousand rules — actually, it came down to several thousand laws that you had to fulfill to be a righteous Jew. Thousands! What happened a bunch of self-righteous men were sitting around saying “You know, thou shalt not — thou shalt not jump off buildings in a toga!” (laughter) Yes, let’s write that one down, because I’ve never done that. Basically,

what was happening is — thou shalt not remove thy teeth with plyers — just made up all kinds of rules . So what they did is they wrote down thousands of rules — all kinds of rules — i.e. Thou shall not clip your nails on the Sabbath — like the Taliban or Koran: Women that have been widowed are allowed to beg, but only on every other day and they will be beaten if they beg on the days that they aren't supposed to beg. Why don't we just add a few more difficult rules to a widow's life? Because those men that wrote the rules were never going to be widows. They were great at writing rules for everybody else, because they knew that they were never going to have to fill them because they were not in their life's needs. Are you all with me? That's self-righteousness! There are many people in life who will walk into a place and one of the challenges, you know, even in church, becomes "churchianity", where if you don't have it, now — there's nothing wrong with a three piece suit — you can wear a million dollar suit — you know, God is pleased with the fact that you're walking into worship, though. I mean, if you're walking into church — there are churches that when you walk in and they look at your shoes and your shoes are scuffed — not the newest design, or you're not wearing designer styles, or whatever it is that people look down on. What they've gotten is — they have created their own rules of righteousness — that they are righteous because of what they wear, or if your car isn't quite as good as their car, or if you're not quite as good looking as they — whatever it is, let me tell you, even American's Christianity has added rules that aren't in the book. I want you to be encouraged today that righteousness is a relationship. Let's say this together — "righteousness is relationship — a personal relationship — a personal relationship that Jesus died for us and gave us righteousness" — but now, continued righteous living is going to come down to relationship. It's not going to come down to the other things, which the world wants to impose upon us. Our hearts — you know — maybe we should read these verses, because these are powerful verses and we need to run through them, time always flies by quickly at 9 o'clock, but we can get another clock. (laughter) Let's read Isaiah — In fact, let's just read all the verses straight down: "All our righteousness are as filthy rags" — by the way, just to let you know that you should underline

the words “filthy rags” — the literal translation of that in the Old Testament Hebrew is “menstrual cloths”, so if you haven’t figured by now that it’s repugnant — to God, that you’re trying to be self-righteous, you’ll catch it on this verse — it’s like menstrual cloth. Our righteousness — not his — but our righteousness is like a menstrual cloth — in other words, it’s like where the dead seed is — it has no life in it. There is a tremendous amount —there — you all are just kind of staring at me right now, glassy eyes, thinking “why did you tell us that?” (laughter) Well, I’m telling you all that because the bottom line is — it is something that you don’t publicize, you don’t, you may even consider it somewhat repugnant itself, and the bottom line is that’s where the dead seed is, where there is going to be no life — that’s what it symbolizes and God is saying “You have no life in your own righteousness and the bottom line is that if you want to deal with eternity and deal with life, deal with me.”