

My God who Vindicates Me

Looking for broader sides on the narrow
way

Ephesians 3:14-20

Selective Snapshot of Romans

- **Theme of the Book of Romans is justification by faith alone.**
- Both Jews and Gentiles are sinners in need of salvation, ie. God's righteousness (**3:23**).
- **Righteousness can only be credited to one who believes** (Chapt 4).
- only in the Cross of Jesus can reconcile sinful men and women unto Himself (**5:1-11**).
- when one "in Christ," we are freed from God's wrath (**Chapt 5**)
- freed from the dominion of sin (**Chapt 6**)
- freed from the curse of the Law (**Chapt 7**)
- freed from condemnation (**Chapt 8**)

Not always happily ever after...Cries for Vindication in the Bible

- [Psalm 26:1](#)

- [*Protestation of Integrity and Prayer for Protection.*] [*A Psalm of David.*]
Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, And I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

- [Psalm 43:1](#)

- [*Prayer for Deliverance.*] **Vindicate** me, O God, and plead my case against an ungodly nation; O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man!

- [Isaiah 50:7-9 \(NASB\)](#)

- ⁷ For the Lord GOD helps Me, Therefore, I am not disgraced; Therefore, I have set My face like flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed.

- ⁸ **He who vindicates Me is near; Who will contend with Me?**

- Let us stand up to each other; Who has a case against Me?

- Let him draw near to Me.⁹ Behold, the Lord GOD helps Me;

- Who is he who condemns Me?

- Behold, they will all wear out like a garment; The moth will eat them.

Definition of “Vindicate”

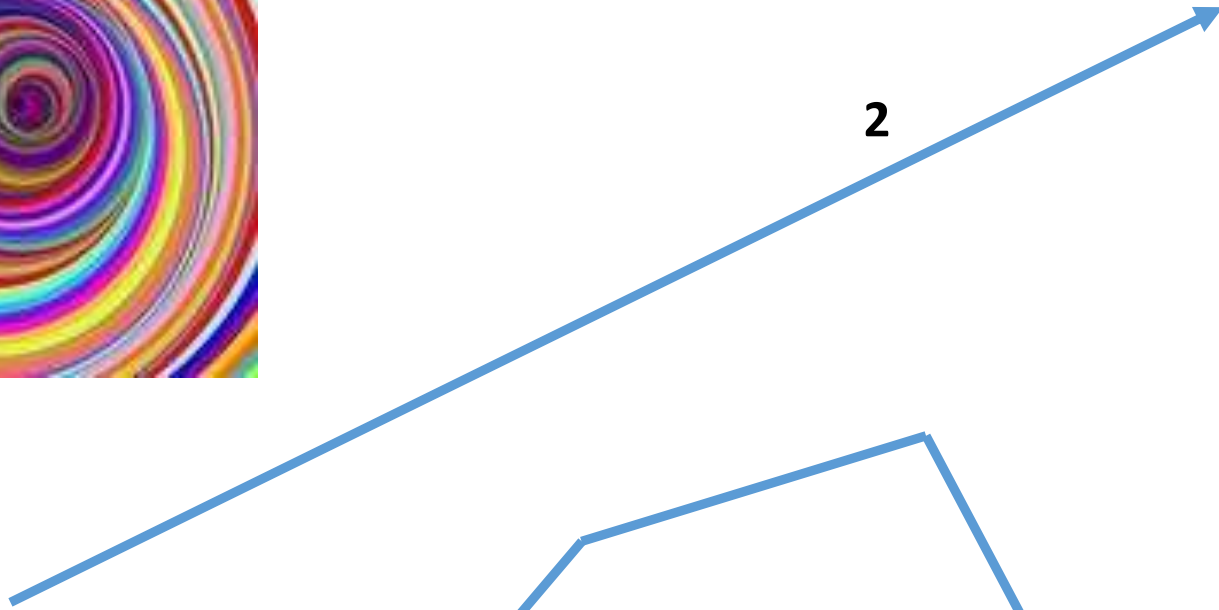
- to show that (someone) should not be blamed for a crime, mistake, is not guilty
- to show that (someone that has been criticized or doubted) is correct, true, or reasonable
- to free from allegation or blame (1) : [confirm](#), [substantiate](#) (2) : to provide justification or defense for : [justify](#) c : to protect from attack : [defend](#)
- to maintain a right to

Eg. *To vindicate our faith/obedience to God*

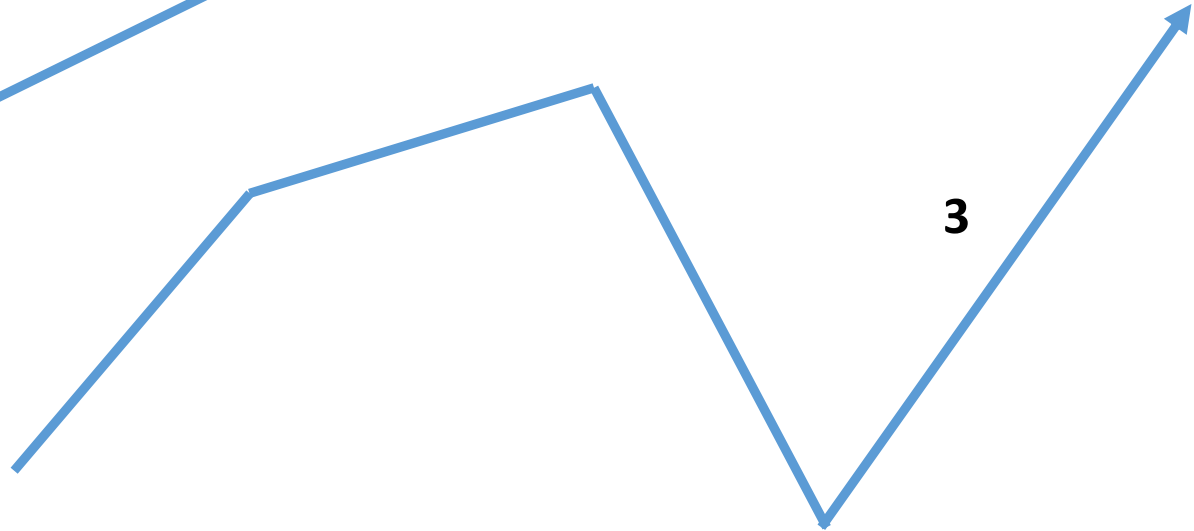
Which is Closer to Our Life Journey?



1



2



3

Human Nature Looks for Broader Sides on the Narrow Way

- Psalm 16:5-7 (NASB)
- ⁵ **The LORD is the portion of my inheritance and my cup;**
You support my lot.
- ⁶ **The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places;**
Indeed, **my heritage is beautiful to me.**
- ⁷ I will bless the LORD who has counseled me;
Indeed, my ^[a]mind instructs me in the night.

Is this your situation?
It will be...when? How?

Human Nature Looks for Broader Sides on the Narrow Way

WHEN GOD VINDICATES ME!

Personal Concerns – Do we need God here?

- Wondering about the meaning of your walk with God
- Misunderstood
- Under estimated
- Bypassed and forgotten for reward/recognition
- Worked hard for long time without appreciable outcomes
- Studied hard but didn't do well
- Doing right but not doing well
- Losing out because people are politicking or not honest
- Unfairly treated
- Laughed at by others doing what God instructed/right thing
- Falsely accused
- No problem but worried something negative may happen

What about End Day Challenges?

What will it take?

- Economic Crisis (Rev 18:17 “...in a single hour...”)
- Energy Crisis (Rev 16:8-10, Amos 8:9)
- Environmental Crisis (Rev 8:7-11 – fire, blood in seas, wormwood in rivers...)
- Natural Disasters (Matthew 24:6-8)
- Wars and tensions (Matthew 24:6-8)
- Rise of lawless one (political, economic & spiritual crisis)
[2 Thessalonians 2:8-10]

3 Key Questions

- How do we hold steady and manage ourselves in challenges and discouragements?
- How do we keep doing right and doing well without stumbling?
- How do we hold on to our faith and not give up or become lukewarm?

How does God Vindicate Us?

Ephesians 3:14-18

- ¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ^[c]
¹⁵ **from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,** ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be **strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,** ¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being **rooted and grounded in love,** ¹⁸ may be able to **comprehend with all the saints** what *is* the width and length and depth and height—

Does Vindication Change Us or Our Circumstances?

Ephesians 3:19-20

- ¹⁹ to **know the love of Christ which passes knowledge**; that you may be **filled with all the fullness of God**.
- ²⁰ Now to Him who is able to **do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us**, ²¹ to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

We are **transformed**
while God works **with** us on our circumstances

Not tied down to situations!

How do we build Stamina for Success?

- **2 Corinthians 10:4-17 (NASB)**
- ⁴ for the **weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh**, but ^[a]divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. ⁵ *We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive* to the obedience of Christ, ⁶ and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete.
- ⁷ ^[a]You are **looking at ^[b]things as they are outwardly**. If anyone is confident in himself that he is Christ's, let him consider this again within himself, that just as he is Christ's, so also are we.

Know where the real battle is!
We have to cooperate with God internally and externally!

Knowing our Time & Place - Spheres of Influence

2 Corinthians 10:13

- ¹³ But we will not boast beyond *our* measure, but [g]within the measure of the sphere which God apportioned to us as a measure, to reach even as far as you.

David knew his place in serving Saul, even after being anointed as king...surviving several murder attempts...

Expanding with God - Spheres of Influence

2 Corinthians 10:14-15

- ¹⁴ For we are not overextending ourselves, as if we did not reach to you, for we were the first to come even as far as you in the gospel of Christ; ¹⁵ not boasting beyond *our* measure, *that is*, in other men's labors, but **with the hope that as your faith grows, we will be, [h](#)within our sphere, enlarged even more by you,**

David's long suffering obedience, and courageous exploits in battles earned him power, and a respected place as king

Waiting for and Moving with Fullness of Times

Confluence
of Variables

Time (Chronos, Kairos, Fullness of Time)

People

Place

Asset

Joseph – PM (13 yrs)
David – Crowning (17 yrs)
Jesus – 2nd Coming (>2000 yrs)

Confluence of Times

