

Righteousness in the New Testament

A Survey of the Greek Words Derived from δικαιοσύνη (dikaiosynē)

A Bible study resource by Clark Pickett

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About this study

This survey lists 86 New Testament verses in which a word built on the Greek root δικαιο- (*dikaio-*) occurs. In most English translations these are rendered “righteousness,” “righteous,” or “righteously.” The purpose is not to prove a particular theological system, but to encourage careful observation of how the New Testament writers use these words in different contexts.

These passages do not all contain the same word. Most carry the noun δικαιοσύνη, but the family is wider:

- δικαιοσύνη — righteousness (noun)
- δίκαιος — righteous, just (adjective)
- δικαίω — justify, declare righteous (verb)
- δικαίωμα — righteous requirement, ordinance (noun)
- δικαίωσις — justification (noun)

Many Christians distinguish two complementary aspects of righteousness. **Imputed righteousness** is the righteousness of Christ credited to believers through faith, God’s declaration that we are righteous because of Christ’s atoning work. **Imparted righteousness** is the practical transformation of a believer’s life by the Holy Spirit, seen in obedience, holiness, and righteous conduct. Most traditions affirm both, while differing on how they relate.

How to read the marks

Column D (“by faith alone”) records Clark’s **early** marks. He placed an “X” beside 34 of the 86 verses, which was his judgment at the time as to which most naturally refer to imputed righteousness, our standing before God through faith in Christ. Later, after class, he revisited that column and added a few further marks (“!”, “?”, and “X G.”) as he reconsidered. Those marks are reproduced here exactly as he left them. They record a man thinking, not a man concluding.

The remaining verses were intentionally left unmarked, not because they were judged to be imparted righteousness, but so that members of the class could think them through for themselves. You may agree with some of these judgments and disagree with others, and that is entirely appropriate.

For every verse, the specific Greek word and its basic meaning in context are given beneath the two translations.

A pattern that emerged

Reading all 86 occurrences together, the New Testament appears to use the δικαιο- word family in at least five distinct but related senses.

Category	Description	Representative passages
1. God's own righteousness	God's perfectly righteous character, justice, covenant faithfulness, and saving action.	Romans 1:17; 3:5, 21–26; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 2 Peter 1:1
2. Imputed righteousness (justification)	The righteousness God credits to believers through faith in Christ; our righteous standing before Him.	Romans 4; Romans 5:17; Galatians 3:6; Philippians 3:9; James 2:23
3. Imparted or practical righteousness (sanctification)	Righteous conduct produced by the Holy Spirit in the believer's life.	Matthew 5–6; Romans 6; Ephesians 4:24; James 3:18; 1 John 2:29–3:10
4. Justice, equity, or uprightness	Fairness, justice, moral integrity, righteous government and judgment.	Acts 17:31; Acts 24:25; Hebrews 11:33; Revelation 19:11
5. The righteous order and life of God's kingdom	The ethical and spiritual character of God's reign, the life that belongs to His kingdom. This overlaps with practical righteousness but emphasizes the kingdom itself rather than individual conduct.	Matthew 6:33; Romans 14:17; Matthew 5:6, 10, 20

One additional observation

Having looked through all 86 occurrences, Clark writes that he has become less convinced that every use can be neatly assigned to a single category. Some passages genuinely carry more than one emphasis. Romans 6 speaks of righteousness both as the result of justification and as the believer's new way of life. James 2:23 cites Abraham's righteousness being credited, yet James's larger argument concerns the evidence of genuine faith in righteous works. And 2 Corinthians 5:21 may encompass both our righteous standing before God and God's transforming work in us.

The Survey

Marks in the right-hand badge are Clark's own, reproduced as he left them. The Greek word and its meaning in context follow the two translations.

Mt 3:15

KJV	And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.
NLT	But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires." So John agreed to baptize him.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness; doing God's will

Mt 5:6

KJV	Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
NLT	God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness desired by God's people

Mt 5:10

KJV	Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
NLT	God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteous living

Mt 5:20

KJV	For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.
NLT	"But I warn you—unless your righteousness is better than the righteousness of the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven!
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — practical righteousness

Mt 6:1

KJV	Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.
NLT	"Watch out! Don't do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others, for you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven.
ESV	Mt 6:1 "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — acts of righteousness (ESV); charitable deeds (KJV "alms")

Mt 6:33

KJV	But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.
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NLT	Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — God's righteous kingdom and will
Mt 21:32	
KJV	For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.
NLT	For John the Baptist came and showed you the right way to live, but you didn't believe him, while tax collectors and prostitutes did. And even when you saw this happening, you refused to believe him and repent of your sins.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteous way of life
Lk 1:74-75	
KJV	That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.
NLT	We have been rescued from our enemies so we can serve God without fear, in holiness and righteousness for as long as we live.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — holy and righteous living
Jn 16:8	
KJV	And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:
NLT	And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — true righteousness
Jn 16:10 [!]	
KJV	Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;
NLT	Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — Christ's righteousness/vindication
Ac 10:35	
KJV	But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.
NLT	In every nation he accepts those who fear him and do what is right.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — doing what is right
Ac 13:10	
KJV	And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?
NLT	Then he said, "You son of the devil, full of every sort of deceit and fraud, and enemy of all that is good! Will you never stop perverting the true ways of the Lord?"
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness

Ac 17:31

KJV

Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

NLT

For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead.”

GREEK

δικαιοσύνη — justice

Ac 24:25

KJV

And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.

NLT

As he reasoned with them about righteousness and self-control and the coming day of judgment, Felix became frightened. “Go away for now,” he replied. “When it is more convenient, I’ll call for you again.”

GREEK

δικαιοσύνη — moral righteousness

Ro 1:17 [!]

KJV

For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

NLT

This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.”

GREEK

δικαιοσύνη — God's saving righteousness

Ro 3:5

KJV

But if our unrighteousness commend the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unrighteous who taketh vengeance? (I speak as a man)

NLT

“But,” some might say, “our sinfulness serves a good purpose, for it helps people see how righteous God is. Isn’t it unfair, then, for him to punish us?” (This is merely a human point of view.)

GREEK

δικαιοσύνη — God's righteousness

Ro 3:21 [x]

KJV

But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

NLT

But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago.

GREEK

δικαιοσύνη — God's righteousness revealed

Ro 3:22 [x]

KJV

Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

NLT	We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness from God through faith

Ro 3:25 [X]

KJV	Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;
NLT	For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past,
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — God's righteousness

Ro 3:26 [X G]

KJV	To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.
NLT	for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη; δίκαιος — God's righteousness; God is just

Ro 4:3 [X]

KJV	For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.
NLT	For the Scriptures tell us, “Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.”
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness credited

Ro 4:5 [X]

KJV	But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.
NLT	But people are counted as righteous, not because of their work, but because of their faith in God who forgives sinners.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness credited

Ro 4:6 [X]

KJV	Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works,
NLT	David also spoke of this when he described the happiness of those who are declared righteous without working for it:
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness credited

Ro 4:9 [X]

KJV	Cometh this blessedness then upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness.
NLT	Now, is this blessing only for the Jews, or is it also for uncircumcised Gentiles? Well, we have been saying that Abraham was counted as righteous by God because of his faith.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness credited
Ro 4:11	
KJV	And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also:
NLT	Circumcision was a sign that Abraham already had faith and that God had already accepted him and declared him to be righteous—even before he was circumcised. So Abraham is the spiritual father of those who have faith but have not been circumcised. They are counted as righteous because of their faith.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness received by faith
Ro 4:13 [X]	
KJV	For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.
NLT	Clearly, God's promise to give the whole earth to Abraham and his descendants was based not on his obedience to God's law, but on a right relationship with God that comes by faith.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness by faith
Ro 4:22 [X]	
KJV	And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.
NLT	And because of Abraham's faith, God counted him as righteous.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness credited
Ro 5:17 [X]	
KJV	For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)
NLT	For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — gift of righteousness
Ro 5:21 [X]	
KJV	That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.
NLT	So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

GREEK δικαιοσύνη — righteousness leading to life

Ro 6:13

KJV Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

NLT Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.

GREEK δικαιοσύνη — righteous service

Ro 6:16

KJV Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

NLT Don't you realize that you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteous living.

GREEK δικαιοσύνη — righteousness as the result of obedience

Ro 6:18

KJV Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

NLT Now you are free from your slavery to sin, and you have become slaves to righteous living.

GREEK δικαιοσύνη — righteous living

Ro 6:19

KJV I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

NLT Because of the weakness of your human nature, I am using the illustration of slavery to help you understand all this. Previously, you let yourselves be slaves to impurity and lawlessness, which led ever deeper into sin. Now you must give yourselves to be slaves to righteous living so that you will become holy.

GREEK δικαιοσύνη — practical holiness

Ro 6:20

KJV For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.

NLT When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the obligation to do right.

GREEK δικαιοσύνη — righteousness

Ro 8:10 [x]

KJV And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

NLT	And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness producing life
Ro 9:30 [X]	
KJV	What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith.
NLT	What does all this mean? Even though the Gentiles were not trying to follow God's standards, they were made right with God. And it was by faith that this took place.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness by faith
Ro 9:31 [X]	
KJV	But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness.
NLT	But the people of Israel, who tried so hard to get right with God by keeping the law, never succeeded.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness sought through law
Ro 10:3 [X]	
KJV	For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.
NLT	For they don't understand God's way of making people right with himself. Refusing to accept God's way, they cling to their own way of getting right with God by trying to keep the law.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — God's righteousness / human righteousness
Ro 10:4 [X]	
KJV	For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.
NLT	For Christ has already accomplished the purpose for which the law was given. As a result, all who believe in him are made right with God.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness through Christ
Ro 10:5 [X]	
KJV	For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them.
NLT	For Moses writes that the law's way of making a person right with God requires obedience to all of its commands.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness from law
Ro 10:6 [X]	
KJV	But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:)

NLT	But faith's way of getting right with God says, "Don't say in your heart, 'Who will go up to heaven?'" (to bring Christ down to earth).
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness by faith
Ro 10:10 [X]	
KJV	For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
NLT	For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — justification/righteous standing
Ro 14:17	
KJV	For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.
NLT	For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteous living in God's kingdom
1 Co 1:30 [X]	
KJV	But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:
NLT	God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — Christ our righteousness
2 Co 3:9 [X]	
KJV	For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory.
NLT	If the old way, which brings condemnation, was glorious, how much more glorious is the new way, which makes us right with God!
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness
2 Co 5:21 [X G]	
KJV	For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.
NLT	For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness of God
2 Co 6:7	
KJV	By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

NLT	We faithfully preach the truth. God's power is working in us. We use the weapons of righteousness in the right hand for attack and the left hand for defense.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness

2 Co 6:14

KJV	Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?
NLT	Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness?
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness contrasted with lawlessness

2 Co 9:9

KJV	(As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever.
NLT	As the Scriptures say, "They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever."
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteous deeds

2 Co 9:10

KJV	Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;)
NLT	For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — fruits of righteousness

2 Co 11:15

KJV	Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.
NLT	So it is no wonder that his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. In the end they will get the punishment their wicked deeds deserve.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness

Ga 2:21 [x]

KJV	I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.
NLT	I do not treat the grace of God as meaningless. For if keeping the law could make us right with God, then there was no need for Christ to die.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness through law?

Ga 3:6 [x]

KJV	Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.
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NLT	In the same way, “Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.”
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness credited
Ga 3:21 [X]	
KJV	Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.
NLT	Is there a conflict, then, between God’s law and God’s promises? Absolutely not! If the law could give us new life, we could be made right with God by obeying it.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness by law?
Ga 5:5 [X]	
KJV	For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.
NLT	But we who live by the Spirit eagerly wait to receive by faith the righteousness God has promised to us.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — hoped-for righteousness
Eph 4:24	
KJV	And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.
NLT	Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — true righteousness
Eph 5:9	
KJV	(For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)
NLT	For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteous character
Eph 6:14 [X?]	
KJV	Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
NLT	Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God’s righteousness.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness (armor)
Php 1:11	
KJV	Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.
NLT	May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — fruit of righteousness
Php 3:6	

KJV	Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.
NLT	I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — legal righteousness

Php 3:9 [x]

KJV	And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:
NLT	and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness through faith

1 Ti 6:11

KJV	But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.
NLT	But you, Timothy, are a man of God; so run from all these evil things. Pursue righteousness and a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteous living

2 Ti 2:22

KJV	Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
NLT	Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace. Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — pursue righteousness

2 Ti 3:16

KJV	All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
NLT	All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — training in righteousness

2 Ti 4:8 [x]

KJV	Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.
NLT	And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.

GREEK | δικαιοσύνη — righteousness (reward from righteous Judge)

Tt 3:5 [x]

KJV | Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

NLT | he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit.

GREEK | δικαιοσύνη — righteous works

Heb 1:9

KJV | Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

NLT | You love justice and hate evil. Therefore, O God, your God has anointed you, pouring out the oil of joy on you more than on anyone else.”

GREEK | δικαιοσύνη — righteousness loved

Heb 5:13

KJV | For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

NLT | For someone who lives on milk is still an infant and doesn't know how to do what is right.

GREEK | δικαιοσύνη — teaching about righteousness

Heb 7:2

KJV | To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;

NLT | Then Abraham took a tenth of all he had captured in battle and gave it to Melchizedek. The name Melchizedek means “king of justice,” and king of Salem means “king of peace.”

GREEK | δικαιοσύνη — righteousness (Melchizedek)

Heb 11:7 [?]

KJV | By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

NLT | It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before. By his faith Noah condemned the rest of the world, and he received the righteousness that comes by faith.

GREEK | δικαιοσύνη — righteousness by faith

Heb 11:33

KJV | Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

NLT | By faith these people overthrew kingdoms, ruled with justice, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of lions,

GREEK | δικαιосύνη — administered justice/righteousness

Heb 12:11

KJV | Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

NLT | No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.

GREEK | δικαιосύνη — peaceful fruit of righteousness

Jas 1:20

KJV | For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

NLT | Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires.

GREEK | δικαιосύνη — God's righteous purpose

Jas 2:23 [X]

KJV | And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

NLT | And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." He was even called the friend of God.

GREEK | δικαιосύνη — righteousness credited

Jas 3:18

KJV | And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

NLT | And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.

GREEK | δικαιосύνη — harvest of righteousness

1 Pe 2:24

KJV | Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

NLT | He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed.

GREEK | δικαιосύνη — living to righteousness

1 Pe 3:14

KJV | But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;

NLT | But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats.

GREEK | δικαιосύνη — suffering for righteousness

2 Pe 1:1 [X]

KJV	Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:
NLT	This letter is from Simon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ. I am writing to you who share the same precious faith we have. This faith was given to you because of the justice and fairness of Jesus Christ, our God and Savior.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness of God and Christ

2 Pe 2:5

KJV	And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;
NLT	And God did not spare the ancient world—except for Noah and the seven others in his family. Noah warned the world of God’s righteous judgment. So God protected Noah when he destroyed the world of ungodly people with a vast flood.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — preacher of righteousness

2 Pe 2:21 [X]

KJV	For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.
NLT	It would be better if they had never known the way to righteousness than to know it and then reject the command they were given to live a holy life.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — way of righteousness

2 Pe 3:13

KJV	Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.
NLT	But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world filled with God’s righteousness.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness dwelling

1 Jn 2:29

KJV	If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.
NLT	Since we know that Christ is righteous, we also know that all who do what is right are God’s children.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — practicing righteousness

1 Jn 3:7

KJV	Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.
NLT	Dear children, don’t let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — practicing righteousness

1 Jn 3:10

KJV	In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.
NLT	So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers does not belong to God.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — doing righteousness

Re 19:11

KJV	And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.
NLT	Then I saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. Its rider was named Faithful and True, for he judges fairly and wages a righteous war.
GREEK	δικαιοσύνη — righteousness/justice

Re 22:11

KJV	He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.
NLT	Let the one who is doing harm continue to do harm; let the one who is vile continue to be vile; let the one who is righteous continue to live righteously; let the one who is holy continue to be holy.”
ESV	Re 22:11 Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.”
GREEK	δικαιοσύνην ποιῶν — let him continue to do righteousness