

ROMANS

The Way of Salvation

3:21-4:25

Righteousness Through Faith Exemplified in Abraham (4:1-25)

- The issue with regard to Abraham raised
 - What about Abraham? What about the blessing he obtained from God?
 - Was Abraham justified by faith or by works?
 - The reason for the question about Abraham
 - If justified by works, then not to the glory of God
 - Abraham (as Jewish leaders held) was justified by works and could glory in himself.

Righteousness Through Faith Exemplified in Abraham (4:1-25)

- The issue with regard to Abraham raised
 - The Appeal to Scripture (Gen 15:6)
 - Abraham believing God gave GOD the glory
 - *Reckoned – Greek – logizomai - credited to one's account*
 - Not a faultless record of good conduct but an act of faith which made Abraham's righteous status a gift of God's grace

Righteousness Through Faith Exemplified in Abraham (4:1-25)

- The issue with regard to Abraham raised
 - Implications of Genesis 15:6
 - Justification by works is not from grace but as of debt
 - Justification by faith is based on God's grace towards a sinful person
 - *Righteousness credited as a gift*

Righteousness Through Faith Exemplified in Abraham (4:1-25)

- The issue with regard to Abraham raised
 - David's Psalm 32:1f agrees and reinforces Gen 15:6
 - Righteousness through faith APART from works
 - Righteousness based on FORGIVENESS OF SINS
 - NOT based on INNOCENCE before the LAW
 - Such a person has no reason to glory in himself

Righteousness Through Faith Exemplified in Abraham (4:1-25)

- **The Universalism of Righteousness Through Faith Supported by Abraham's Justification**
 - The believer is justified, but **ONLY** the circumcised believer
 - Abraham's faith was reckoned **BEFORE** his circumcision
 - Circumcision was **A SIGN** and **THE SEAL** of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised
 - He is the father of the **CIRCUMCISED** who **WALK IN FAITH**

Righteousness Through Faith Exemplified in Abraham (4:1-25)

- Abraham Blessed Through Faith, Not Through Law
 - Assertion confirming verse 12
 - Through FAITH not LAW
 - The reason the promise cannot be through law
 - The LAW did NOT establish new conditions of the promise

Righteousness Through Faith Exemplified in Abraham (4:1-25)

- **Abraham Blessed Through Faith, Not Through Law**
 - The reason the promise is doomed to fail if based on Law
 - The law condemns
 - In contrast, where no law exists, there is no violation
 - The gospel plan of salvation – based on grace NOT law

Righteousness Through Faith Exemplified in Abraham (4:1-25)

- **Abraham Blessed Through Faith, Not Through Law**
 - Elaboration of the reason the promise was based on faith
 - God's grace shines through in the presence of faith
 - God's future promises are as sure as if they were happening RIGHT THEN!

Righteousness Through Faith Exemplified in Abraham (4:1-25)

- **Description of Abraham's Faith**
 - In hope he believed against hope
 - When there was no reason to believe
 - Abraham had GOD's word of promise
 - He believed God could do all he said even with his own, and his wife's age.

Righteousness Through Faith Exemplified in Abraham (4:1-25)

- Abraham the model for our faith
 - Just as Abraham believed in “God, who gives life to the dead”
 - We MUST “believe on Him that raised Jesus our Lord from the dead”
 - Just as Abraham’s faith had respect to a promised future, so does ours!

Next Week

- We begin a “NEW” study building on what we have already learned
 - Romans chapters 5-8
- THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE STAND