

Discussion Questions

Read Romans 4:1-12

- 1) What important point was Paul trying to make in Romans 3:10-18 regarding the nature of man? How does this stand opposed to what the world says?
- 2) According to our passage today, what did Abraham gain? How did he gain it?
- 3) What does it mean to truly believe? Is it different today?
- 4) Was Abraham perfect? If he was, what would that mean?
- 5) Was Abraham declared righteous before or after circumcision? What is the significance of that fact?
- 6) What is the difference between grace and the works of righteousness? Which one are you honestly trusting today?
- 7) How was David forgiven? How are we forgiven?
- 8) If circumcision was the sign of the Old Covenant, what is the sign of the New Covenant?

Pray together for a greater understanding of salvation by faith alone. Ask the Lord to help you rely on the gift of grace and not the works of the flesh to save.

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Paul's Letter to the Romans – Week 10 Faith that Saves - June 25, 2023

Key Text: Romans 4:1-12

Romans 4 vs 1 What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh?

Vs 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

Vs 3 For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.”

*Quoted from Genesis 15:6

The Hebrew verb form of the word believe means to be certain.

The Greek word for “counted” is logizomai meaning: To put on one's account.

Vs 4-5 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,

Grace has to do with the free gift of God.

Works says, "I've earned my merit with God."

Vs 6-8 just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works
"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."

*Quoted from Psalm 32

Vs 9 Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness.

Vs 10 How then was it counted to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after but before he was circumcised.

Was Abraham considered righteous before or after circumcision?

He was declared righteous, and 14 years later, he received the sign of the covenant.

Vs 11 He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well,

Vs 12 and to make him the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

"What is written of Abraham is also written of his children."