

*Chap 4*



**ROMANS**  
GOSPEL~ROOTED LIVING

Where have we been so far?

- Greeting and Introduction of the Gospel
- Indictment of all mankind – all have sinned
- Law's Purpose – Reveal, Define, Increase
- Good News on the Law – faith alone saves

“by faith” is illustrated in the life of Abraham

- 1-8: Abraham & David justified “by faith”
- 9-17: Faith is for all, not just the Jews
- 18-25: Abe’s faith is model for us Christians

What is Faith?

What is Faith?

*Choosing to take God at His word*

Romans 4:1-3

Justified by Faith

*...“Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” (Gen 15:6)*

- Abraham...
  - Took God as His word
  - Received what he did not deserve (grace)

Romans 4:4-5

*4 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift ... 5 And to the one who ...believes ...faith is counted as righteousness,*

- If we earn it, then it is not a gift
- But if we take God at His word...

Romans 4:6-8

*<sup>6</sup> just as David also speaks...<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven... against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”*

- David...
  - Didn't receive what he deserved (mercy)
  - Takes God as His word...



## Quick summary of 1-8

- Abraham received God's gift of grace
  - He got what he did not deserve
- If we earn it, it is not a gift – we deserve it
- David received God's gift of mercy
  - He did not get what he deserved

Romans 4:9-10

Is it only for the Jews?

*<sup>9</sup> Is this blessing then only for the circumcised,  
...faith was counted to Abraham as  
righteousness...before he was circumcised.*

- Abe declared righteous before circumcision

Romans 4:11-13

*...The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe...<sup>13</sup> For the promise to Abraham and his offspring...did not come through the law but through...faith*

- All (Gentile & Jew) are heirs of Abe by faith

Romans 4:14-15

*14 For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and... void...*

- If it is something we do, we don't need God's gift that is received by faith

Romans 4:16-17

*16 That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring...*

- It is God's work / gift for all mankind

Faith is not the cause of justification

- God's mercy and grace – cause / source
- “By faith” answers how – means / process
  
- Earn it by obedience? You are the source
- B/C it is given, it reveals God loves all of us

Romans 4:18-19

Abraham is an example

*18 In hope he believed against [all] hope  
...when he considered his own body...or...the  
barrenness of Sarah's womb.*

- Abe believed God despite all human logic
- Abe is 99 / Sarah is 90 (Gen 17:17)

Romans 4:20-22

*...but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup> fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised...*

- God protected Abe in Egypt, blessed him w/wealth, gave him victory in battle, etc.



Romans 4:23-25

*...It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead, Jesus our Lord...*

- Those who put their faith in God like Abraham put his faith in God, will be saved

## Romans 4

- Abe believed God & was declared righteous
- Those who believe receive righteousness
- Not just the Jew, but also the Gentile
- For by faith God we become Abraham's heirs
- If only we will believe as Abraham believed

Walk “by faith” and not by sight (2 Cor 5:7)

- How do I love God?
- How do I love my spouse?
- How do I love my children?
- How do I love my parents?
- How do I love my neighbor?
- How do I love my church?

The Gospel – 1 Cor 10:13

*No temptation has overtaken you, except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so that you can endure it...*

# Jesus's darkest hours

Matt 4:1-11

Matt 26:36-39



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