



Romans 4:1-8

Abraham, Justified by Faith

- I. **Introduction:** Paul taught that Abraham was justified by faith, not by works, showing that this has always been God's pattern of salvation.

- II. Abraham, Justified by Faith (**Rom 4:1-8**).
 - A. The Problem of Justification (**vv. 1-2**).
 1. Paul proclaimed that even Abraham had no basis for bragging about his salvation, because he did not earn it either.

 - B. The Proof of Justification (**v. 3**).
 1. Paul declared that justification by faith is clearly seen in the example of Abraham, who believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness.

 - C. The Principle of Justification (**vv. 4-5**).
 1. Paul revealed that those who try to earn salvation by works are only doing what God requires, rather than earning His favor.

 - D. The Promise of Justification (**vv. 6-8**).
 1. Paul demonstrated that David also understood that forgiveness could come only through God's divine grace and that his own works could not justify him.

- III. **Conclusion:** Paul explains that God has justified sinners by faith in Jesus Christ, using the examples of Abraham and David to demonstrate how God imputes righteousness.



Questions About: The Results of Justification

1. Which Old Testament person is the focus of Romans 4? (**Rom 4:1-25**) Why does Paul spend so much time speaking about Abraham? (**v. 1**) What is the center of his argument? (**v. 3**)
2. What did the Jews believe about Abraham? (**Rom 4:1-8; Gen 26:4-5**) Why did they consider Abraham their father? (**v. 1**) When did God call him from Ur to Israel? (**Gen 11:26-12:3**)
3. How was Abraham justified? (**Rom 4:1-2**) How did Paul argue that works didn't justify Abraham? (**v. 2**) How did Paul argue that boasting about justification is wrong? (**Rom 3:27**)
4. Which Scripture did Paul use to show how Abraham was justified? (**Rom 4:3; Gen 15:6**) What was God's promise that Abraham believed? (**Gen 15:1-6**) Why is this significant?
5. What is the principle that Paul wanted the Romans to understand? (**Rom 4:4-5**) What did Paul say was the problem with works? (**v. 4**) What are the wages that our works earn? (**v. 4; 6:23**)
6. How does Paul contrast works with faith? (**Rom 4:4-5**) How does God use faith to justify ungodly sinners? (**v. 5; Rom 3:24-25**) Why is faith not a work? (**Eph 2:8-9; Phil 1:29**)
7. What other Old Testament figure did Paul use as an illustration? (**Rom 4:6-8**) What Scripture did Paul use to prove justification by faith? (**Psa 32:1-2**) How had David sinned? (**2 Sam 12**)
8. Who did David say was the blessed man? (**Rom 4:6-8**) Have you had your sins forgiven? Are you blessed like David? (**v. 8**) Have you been justified by God's grace?

Prayer

1. Pray that God would help you to see that you cannot earn God's favor with your works.
2. Ask God to help you show others that forgiveness can be found in Jesus.