



ADULT CLASS FEBRUARY 16, 2020

ROMANS 4:13-25

The Example of Abraham's Faith

I. Overview of Romans...

- A. Chapter 1: God's Power to Save; the Unrighteousness of the Gentiles.
- B. Chapter 2: Indictment of the Jews.
- C. Chapter 3: All Have Sinned, But by Faith in Christ All Can Be Righteous.
- D. Chapter 4: Example of Abraham's Faith.
- E. Chapter 5: Christ is Greater Than Adam.

II. JUSTIFICATION OF ABRAHAM USED AS AN EXAMPLE (1-8)

- A. IF ABRAHAM WAS JUSTIFIED BY THE THINGS THAT HE DID, THERE MIGHT BE REASON FOR HIM TO BOAST OF HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS.
- B. IT WAS ABRAHAM'S FAITH IN GOD WHICH JUSTIFIED HIM. (3)
- C. THIS DOES NOT CONTRADICT JAMES 2:17
- D. PAUL USES THE TESTIMONY OF DAVID AS AN EXAMPLE (6-8)

III. RIGHTEOUSNESS BY FAITH IS AVAILABLE TO ALL BELIEVERS (9-25)

- A. ABRAHAM WASN'T JUSTIFIED BY CIRCUMCISION (9-12)
- B. ABRAHAM WASN'T JUSTIFIED BY THE LAW BECAUSE THE LAW WAS NOT IN EXISTENCE YET. – Rom. 4:13-15
 - 1. The promise made to Abraham was made before the Law of Moses was established.
 - 2. Since the Law of Moses did not grant righteousness, it would be foolish to look to it as the source of righteousness. – Gal. 3:19, 23-25, 18
 - 3. The Law brings wrath. – Rom. 4:15b; 1 Jn. 3:4, Deut. 12:8-9, 32

4. Abraham wasn't justified by The Law because it wasn't given to him.
5. The Judaizers of Acts 15 tried to bind the law of circumcision on the Gentiles. – Acts 15:1, 8-10

C. ABRAHAM WAS JUSTIFIED BY FAITH. – Romans 4:16-18

1. Our inheritance (salvation) “comes by faith...according to grace”.
2. Abraham became “the father of many nations”. – Gen. 17:5
 - a) *Abraham was physically the father of nations...*
 - (1) Israelites, Edomites, Ishmaelites, Midianites and other smaller nations.
 - (2) He is also the father of all in every nation who truly believe in God as he did.
3. Abraham was justified because his faith grew strong. - Romans 4:18-22
 - a) *“contrary to hope, in hope he believed” (v.18a)*
 - b) *“... he did not waver... through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith” (v.20)*
 - c) *“... and being fully convinced” (v.21a)*
 - d) *“it was accounted to him for righteousness.” (v.22)*
 - (1) **Accounted:** to pass to one's account; a thing is reckoned as or to be something, i.e. as the equivalent to something, as having the like force and weight.
4. This is the same type of faith that justifies us today. – Heb. 6:17-18
5. Even though there was no logical reason for Abraham to hope, he had faith anyway. – Rom. 4:19, Heb. 11:11-12
6. Abraham's justification by faith assures that we who believe in Him who raised Jesus from the dead will find justification. – Rom. 4:23-25, 15:4; Jam. 2:21-22; 1 Pet. 1:20-21