



ROMANS 4:1-12

¹ What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵ And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶ just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: ⁷ 'Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; ⁸ blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.' 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. 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. 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, 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. (Romans 4:1-12)

Introduction

- Many have recognized Romans 1:16-17 as the “ _____ ” of Romans.
- In Romans 1:18-3:20, Paul emphasized two, related topics. One, the depth and extent of human _____. Two, the righteous _____ of God.
- In Romans 3:21, Paul circled back to his central thesis – the righteousness of God is obtained through _____ in Jesus, not by _____ of the Law.

Key Events in the Life of Abraham

- Genesis 12:1-9 ... God called Abraham to go, and God promised to _____ Abraham.
- Genesis 15:1-21 ... God credited righteousness to Abraham on the basis of his _____.
- Genesis 17:1-14 ... God gave Abraham circumcision as a sign of God’s _____.
- Genesis 22:1-14 ... God taught Abraham that God would provide the _____ for sin.

What is Paul’s argument in Romans 4:1-12?

- The example of Abraham teaches us that justification is by _____, not by _____.
- The examples of Abraham and David teach us that in justification, God credits _____ to the _____.

How do we respond to Romans 4:1-12?

- Our hope must not rest in anything we might _____ but only in what Christ has _____.
- There is no place for _____ as a Christian, only rejoicing in the hope of the gospel.
- The truth about how God _____ sinners has never changed and will never change.