

ROMANS STUDY

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GRACE.
THE FOUNDATION OF NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.

Romans 4:1-8

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

When Eyes Can Hear Us – Part 3

The Gospel of Grace, The Foundation of New Testament Theology
According to Grace By The Argumentation of the Apostle Paul

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Grace, Faith, Works, Paul, Law, The Spiritual vs. The Carnal,

Before we get into Romans 4, we must drive thru Genesis 15
and Psalm 32 for us to get our bearings...

Genesis 15:1-6

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward." 2 But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!" 4 And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." 5 Then God brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." 6 And Abram believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.

Psalm 32:1-2

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered. 2 Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is (honesty) no deceit.

So Now Here's The Context – Let's Read Together

Romans 4:1-8

What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found 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 accounted to him for

righteousness.” 4 Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. 5 But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, 6 just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: 7 “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; 8 Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.”

Quoting James

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.”

When Eyes Can Hear Us

1.) There is nowhere to hide vs. 1-2

1a.) Our flesh testifies against us vs. 1a

1b.) Our deeds can never measure up vs. 2a

1c.) Our pride is laid low before God vs. 2b

When Eyes Can Hear Us

2.) There is no way to lose vs. 3

2a.) Salvation is founded on the Scriptures vs. 3

Verse 3

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

“The Bible Says / The Bible Says / The Bible Says”
“It Is Written” was how Jesus Christ conducted warfare against Satan’s attacks - the **“The Bible Says!”**

**When Eyes Can Hear Us
There Is No Way To Lose**

2b.) Salvation is independent of human effort

vs. 4

Verse 4

Now to him who **works**, the wages are not counted
as **grace** but as **debt**.

There Is No Way To Lose

2c.) Salvation is a radical transformer

vs. 5

Verse 5

But to him who does not **work** but **believes** on Him who
justifies the ungodly, his faith is **accounted** for righteousness,

When Eyes Can Hear Us

3.) There is no greater experience

vs. 6-8

This earthly world of ours today is addicted to experiences.

“If it feels good **DO IT** - “he who dies with the most toys **WINS**

“Look out for **NUMBER ONE**”

DISCLAIMER

“With all due respect for those of you who have never experienced the salvation power of God – that would be because you have been willfully ignoring Him, hiding from Him, refuse Him – **BUT KNOW THIS...** you need to know something. We know you and we know where you’re at because we used to be just like you - - but you have never been where we are now. You’ve had no **REAL** clash with God – no hostile takeover, no encounter with the True and Living God of Heaven.

**When Eyes Can Hear Us
There Is No Greater Experience**

3a.) Knowing what it’s like to be with Him

vs. 6

Verse 6

6 just as David also describes the blessedness
of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:

David is speaking from Experience.

David grew up knowing about God, but it appears that he didn't know God personally, until his teenage years – and that was by experience.

Psalms 32:1-2

Blessed is he whose (1) transgression is forgiven,
Whose (2) sin is covered. 2 Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not
impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is (honesty) no deceit.

Blessed heb: ashar
to go straight down a path, to advance, to proceed in the walk
or journey of life, directed, guided. (always in a good place)

Transgressions heb: pasha
to be a rebel, in the act of rebellion, an offender of both
God and man.

Sin heb: chataah
to be off or away from, to miss the appointed target or to miss
the offering, to offer the wrong sacrifice.

Iniquity heb: avon
guilty, the guilt that comes from having committed a crime.
man's internal awareness of his sinfulness.

Transgressions are forgiven. Sin is covered. Iniquity gone.

Describes grk: **lego**;
commands, designates, states, reports, gives testimony of.

The word describes implies that what is being described has been
witnessed or experienced by the person presenting his or her argument.

We would call it “an eyewitness account “

This is an incredibly powerful argument for the Christian experience. The argument presupposes that a person who says they know God can tell you what it's like to experience God. They have evidence of having encountered God. They have a description of who they once were and who they are now. Simply put, they have a testimony on file (as in being a legal term - before God and man).

“Every Christian has a testimony, describing their encounter with God and what has happened since that encounter.”

This Combined Witness of Abraham & David ought to translate into a “Blessed Life” or “Happy Life”

Blessedness grk: **makarismos**;
favored, appointed, situated, placement (as the positioning of a valued treasure, item such as a vase, or painting. – put in a prominent place)

But from where do we begin this journey toward happiness? You must begin at the beginning – just make sure you don't stay “at the beginning”.

Colossians 1:21-22

And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled you in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight.

Listen – This is Who and What We Once Was...

Galatians 5:19-21

Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Ephesians 5:3-8

But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; 4 neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. 5 For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not be partakers with them. 8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

**We were once exactly like you are today.
But you have never been like us, the way we are now!**

Ephesians 2:1-3

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

Ephesians 4:22-24

That you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

**When Eyes Can Hear Us
There Is No Greater Experience**

3b.) Knowing what it's like to know the real you

vs. 7

Verse 7

7 "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;

Covered

grk: epikalupto
that which has been atoned for, paid for, cleared of,
(no longer present)

What God’s Grace Does With a Life of Sin.

Big Sinner = Big Forgiveness = Big Love = Big Happiness. (blessedness)

**When Eyes Can Hear Us
There Is No Greater Experience**

3c.) Knowing what it’s like to be truly free(er) vs. 8

Verse 8

8 Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.”

This is the Ultimate Invitation
*Here’s the (why) and the (how) that allows this
to happen in your life.*

Jeremiah 29:11-14

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.13 And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you, says the LORD,

Will You Respond to That? // How about This?

Micah 7:19

He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities.
You will cast all our sins Into the depths of the sea.

Why Not This?

Psalms 103:12

As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

Maybe This?

Isaiah 45:22

Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth!

“Any man can look. It doesn’t take any effort to look. You can look, I can look. It doesn’t cost anything to Look. It doesn’t take much encouragement for you to look. All you need to do to look - is to look

John 6:35-37

And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. 36 But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

Revelation 22:16-17

“I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.” 17 And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

End of Study

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