

ROMANS STUDY

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

Romans 4:9-25

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

The Truth About The Gospel Truth – Part 2

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, Wrath

Romans 4:9-25

Does this blessedness then come upon the circumcised only, or upon the uncircumcised also?

For we say that FAITH was accounted to Abraham for righteousness. 10 How then was it accounted? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised. 11 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the FAITH which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also, 12 and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also walk in the steps of the FAITH which our father Abraham had while still uncircumcised. 13 For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of FAITH. 14 For if those who are of the law are heirs, FAITH is made void and the promise made of no effect: 15 because the law brings about wrath; for where there is no law there is no transgression. 16 Therefore it is of FAITH that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be SURE to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the FAITH of Abraham, who is the father of us all 17 (*as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations"*) in the presence of Him whom he believed even God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; 18 who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "*So shall your descendants be.*" 19 And not being weak in FAITH, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. 20 He did not waver at the promise of God through (because of) unbelief, but was strengthened in FAITH, giving glory to God, 21 and being FULLY CONVINCED that what He had promised He was also able to perform. 22 And therefore "*it was accounted to him for righteousness.*" 23 Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, 24 but also for us. *It shall be imputed to us who believe*

in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, (the atonement for our weaknesses, our sins, our transgressions) and was raised because of (for) our justification.

Professor John Phillips writes.

“The great Bible chapter on salvation by faith *alone* is Romans chapter 4. Many claim to believe in salvation by faith, but not in salvation by faith *alone*. The word *alone* is the watershed which divides the Catholic from the Protestant, and it was the watchword of the Reformation. The Romanist, for example, believes in salvation by the blood of Christ, but not in the value of the blood of Christ *alone*; he accepts the fact that Christ is mediator between God and man, but not that Christ is mediator *alone*; he acknowledges the authority of the Scriptures, but not the authority of scripture *alone*. Romans chapter 4 is Paul’s demonstration that salvation is by faith *alone* apart from any human work or effort of man.”

The Issue of Faith and The Work of God

Revelation 15:4

Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For *You alone are* holy.

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Romans 3:28

Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

Galatians 2:16

knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

The Truth - About The Gospel Truth

1.) The Gospel Truth is simple

vs. 9-15

1a.) Simple because it’s pure

vs. 9-10

Verse 9a

Does this blessedness then come upon the circumcised only, or upon the uncircumcised also?

Verse 9b-10b

For we say that FAITH was accounted to Abraham for righteousness. 10 How then was it accounted? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised.

The Truth - About The Gospel Truth **The Gospel Truth Is Simple**

1b.) Simple because it's available

vs. 11-12

Verse 11a

11 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the FAITH which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe,

The Truth About The Gospel Truth **The Gospel Truth Is Simple**

1c.) Simple because it's appealing

vs. 13-15

Verse 13

13 For the promise that he would be the HEIR of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of FAITH.

The Truth - About The Gospel Truth

2.) The Gospel Truth is rational

vs. 16-18

The Truth - About The Gospel Truth **The Gospel Truth Is Rational**

2a.) Rational because it's visible

vs. 16-17a

Verse 16a

Therefore it is of FAITH that it might be according to GRACE,

Faith brings us into God's favor. It is placing faith in His word that links together to His Grace.

“Everything you and I know to be meaningful, valuable, usable, and purposeful are all built upon a Promise. And when it comes to the God of the Bible relating to mankind – He does so in the realm of His Presence”

- Jack Hibbs

Joshua 1:9

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

“...He does this in the realm of His Presence”

John 4:23-24

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

Faith & Grace

These two eternal qualities never change and can never be altered.
The Concept of Faith / The Concept of Grace

“Faith is the lens that enables us to look at God, more specifically, faith is the lens that brings God and His promises into focus.”

- Jack Hibbs

“This joy in God (*faith*) is not like any pleasure found in physical or intellectual satisfaction. Nor is it such - as a friend experiences in the presence of a friend. But, if we are to use any such analogy, it is more like - the eye rejoicing in light.”

- Augustine of Hippo,

Noah Webster’s 1828 Work Defines Faith from Latin as;

- (1) The assent of the mind (not the lessening of) to the truth of what God has revealed.
- (2) The assent of the mind (not the lessening of) to the truth of a proposition advanced by a probable claim of evidence.
- (3) The assent of the mind (not the lessening of) to the truth of what is declared authority, the veracity, and evidence of being true.

The Issue of Faith

James 2:14

What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? (not one bit)

James 1:25

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.

James 2:17

Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

James 2:18

But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

James 2:20-22

But do you want to know, O foolish man, that (1) faith without (2) works is dead? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? 22 Do you see that (1) faith was working together with his (2) works, and by works faith was made perfect?

Verse 16b

so that the promise might be SURE to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the FAITH

So that the promise might be SURE to all the seed
(children)

Paul is saying that "It is of faith so that the promise might be sure. Implying that nothing can be sure apart from faith. It is sure because the promise is of Divine origin and faith lays hold of that Divine promise. It's not of us, but it is (us) running to Him by faith.

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace (the badge) you have been saved through faith (that carries the badge), and that not of yourselves; it is the gift (granted) of God.

Verse 17

Those who are of the FAITH of Abraham, who is the father of us all
17 (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations")

If you went to peel back the outer trappings of Abraham's life you would find faith - - Faith acting as the accelerant or the propulsion to his works, his actions.

If our lives were opened up, what would people find behind our works or actions of our lives? - - What is our accelerant or propulsion.

This last week in Sacramento I watched a sample of this truth take place when a plain clothes officer was assigned to my protection and was asked by the State Capital Police, **and who are you?** All that officer had to do was pull back his suit coat to reveal his badge and the response was, **"That'a do it"**

He was the possessor of a badge. The U.S. Government had issued him that badge and that badge had been assigned to him – thus the Authority of the U.S. Government was promised to him. That power may have been hidden - but it was on him, and it marked him out. The same is true for the follower of the LORD Jesus Christ.

**I find it comforting that those badges are issued and not purchased.
They are granted and not earned.**

Romans 3:24

Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

1 Corinthians 1:30

But of Him you are in Christ Jesus,

The Truth About The Gospel Truth The Gospel Truth Is Rational

2b.) Rational because it's logical

vs. 17b

Verse 17b

in the presence of Him whom he believed - even God,

Verse 17c

who (God) gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;

The implication of the text is - - that Sarah's womb was dead and Abraham was as dead to the realm of biological reproduction.

Sarah's womb and Abraham's age displayed
a living, real life parable.

The art of teaching and the technicolor way was invented by God and was made most famous by Jesus Christ himself when He taught the people in Parables.

The Truth About The Gospel Truth The Gospel Truth Is Rational

2c.) Rational because it's transcendent

vs. 18

Verse 18a

who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, *"So shall your descendants be."*

"When the LORD God of the Bible revealed Himself – He did so of His own initiative and did so with intentionality. Simply put - God chose to make Himself known."

"It is rational for any human being to naturally conclude in the existence of the Divine. The observable and studied Laws of Nature demand such a conclusion, for it is impossible for order to come out of chaos. Regardless of age, environment, or experience, He who thinks has to believe."

Dr. A.E. Wilder-Smith

The Truth - About The Gospel Truth

Is that it's very exclusive – yep, it's only available to those who want it

End of Study

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