

# God's Good News About Righteousness

## An Inductive Study of the Book of Romans

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### Study 8, Abraham, Illustration of Righteousness Declared Because of Faith

Romans 4:1-25 (Part 2, 4:13-25)

- A. INTRODUCTION: The Writer, the Readers, and the Good News (Romans 1:1-17).
- B. CONDEMNATION: The Unveiling of God's Wrath against Man's Unrighteousness 1:18 - 3:20
- C. **JUSTIFICATION: The Declaration of Righteousness through Faith 3:21 - 5:21.**
  - 1. God's Righteous Provision of a Righteousness for Humans Apart From the Law 3:21-31. (Study 6.)
  - 2. **Abraham, the Illustration of Righteousness Declared Because of Faith. 4:1-25. (Study 7, Part 1, 4:1-12.)**
    - a. Abraham was justified (declared righteous) apart from works. 4:1-5.
    - b. Righteousness apart from works is documented in Old Testament Scripture through what David said. (4:6-8).
    - c. Abraham was justified (declared righteous) by God before he was circumcised. (4:9-12).
  - d. **Abraham's justification was by faith in God's promise apart from his keeping the Law. (4:13-25). (Study 8)**
    - 1) The promise of God to make Abraham and his descendants heir of the world was independent of the Law of Moses. (4:13-15).
      - a) Regarding the promise God made to Abraham and his descendants – (4:13).
        - i On what was the promise NOT based?
        - ii On what WAS the promised based?
      - b) If God's promise to Abraham and his descendants had been based on their ability to keep the Law of Moses – (4:14).
        - i What would have happened to faith?
        - ii What would have happened to the promise?
      - c) What is the function of the Law of Moses? (4:15).

- 2) God's promise to give the world to Abraham and his descendants necessarily operated on a basis totally different than keeping the Law. (4:16-17a).
  - a) On what two things was God's promise based? (4:16a).
    - i F \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii G \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) Since God's promise could be obtained by all those who believe (because of God's free gift [grace]), what assurance could those of Abraham's descendants who believe have that they would actually inherit the promise? (4:16b). Hint: God would g\_\_\_\_\_ it!
  - c) Since God's promise to inherit the world was based on human faith and God's grace, the promise could apply to two different groups of people who would believe (4:16c, 4:17):
    - i Who are the people "of the Law?" (4:16c).
    - ii Who are the people who are "of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all"? (4:16c, see 4:17).
- 3) Abraham had to believe God's promise to him. (4:17-25).
  - a) What was the promise that God made to Abraham? (4:17a). (Hint: God promised Abraham He would make him a \_\_\_\_\_ of many \_\_\_\_\_. See Gen. 17:5.)
  - b) Did Abraham actually believe God? (4:17b).
  - c) What two statements are made about God's power? (4:17c).
    - i He give \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_.
    - ii He calls into being that which \_\_\_\_\_.

- d) The obstacles to Abraham's faith. (4:18-19).
  - i How hopeful was Abraham's situation? (4:18).
  - ii What obstacle did Abraham's body present? (4:19a).
  - iii What obstacle did Sarah's womb present? (4:19b).
- e) The reality of Abraham's faith. (4:20-21).
  - i How would you describe Abraham's faith? (4:20).
  - ii What did he believe about God? (4:21).
- f) The results of Abraham's faith. (4:22-25).
  - i What credit to God give to Abraham because of his faith? (4:22).
  - ii Was it for Abraham only that God credited faith for righteousness? (4:23).
  - iii If we believe that God raised Jesus our Master (Lord) from the dead, what will God do for us? (4:24).
  - iv Why was Jesus delivered over to death? (4:25a).
  - v Why was Jesus raised from the dead? (4:25b).
- 4) Thinking about it:
  - a) Have you been able to keep the Law of Moses perfectly?
  - b) Do you believe Jesus died for your sins?
  - c) Do you believe God raised Jesus so you can be declared righteous?
  - d) Has God declared you to be righteous? How do you know?

**Study 8, Abraham, the Illustration of Righteousness Declared Because of Faith. (Part 2)**

Romans 4:13-25

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