

The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God

Justification By Faith Alone

Romans 3:27-4:25

What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found?

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 RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS."

⁴ Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due.

⁵ But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness.

⁶ Just as David also speaks of the blessing on the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:

⁷ "BLESSED ARE THOSE WHOSE LAWLESS DEEDS HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN,

AND WHOSE SINS HAVE BEEN COVERED.

⁸ "BLESSED IS THE MAN WHOSE SIN THE LORD WILL NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT."

(Romans 4:1-8)

Faith Reckoned as Righteousness

➤ What does this mean?

- Abraham's right standing before God is by faith and therefore is entirely a gracious act that rules out all boasting and any appeal to works

Faith Reckoned as Righteousness

1. Faith Accords with Grace

- works are credited according to debt (wages) not according to grace
- faith is credited as righteousness according to grace not any merit

Faith Reckoned as Righteousness

2. Faith Equals “Not Working”

- faith acknowledges our unrighteousness and guilt before God
- faith looks outside oneself and trusts in God’s work/promise in Christ
- faith is the obedience God requires, and yet is the work of God in Christ by grace

Faith Reckoned as Righteousness

3. Righteousness Includes Forgiveness

- forgiveness is not the crediting of our good works, but God’s act of not crediting sin to us
- being “credited righteousness” by God means His not crediting our sin against us

Faith Reckoned as Righteousness

Do you know this gospel blessing?