



GRACE-POWERED LIVING

A Study of the Book of ROMANS

WHAT DID ABRAHAM DO?
Romans 4:9-25

May 4, 2014 | 9:15 & 10:50am

Introduction: Are good works necessary for salvation? Before you answer too quickly, consider the incidents in Abraham's life recounted in today's passage.

I. Abraham's Righteousness Was Apart From...

A. **Works** (Romans 4:1-8)

Romans 4:6 "Just as David also speaks of the blessing upon the man to whom God reckons righteousness apart from works:"

B. **Ritual** (Romans 4:9-12)

Romans 4:9-10 "9 Is this blessing then upon the circumcised, or upon the uncircumcised also? For we say, 'Faith was reckoned to Abraham as righteousness.' 10 How then was it reckoned? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised;"

WHAT DID ABRAHAM DO?

Baptism serves as a ...

1. **Sign** (Romans 6:3-7)
2. **Seal** (Acts 2:38)

Titus 3:5 "He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit."

- C. **Law** (Romans 4:13-15)

Romans 4:13 "For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith."

Romans 4:14 "For if those who are of the Law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise is nullified."

II. Abraham's Righteousness Was Through A Faith That ...

- A. Came by God's **Grace** (Romans 4:16)

Romans 4:16 "For this reason it is by faith, that it might be in accordance with grace, in order that the promise may be certain to all the descendants, 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."

WHAT DID ABRAHAM DO?

- B. Centered on God's **Character** (Romans 4:17)

Romans 4:17 "(as it is written, 'A father of many nations have I made you') in the sight of Him whom he believed, even God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist."

Abraham trusted in ...

1. God's **power**
2. God's **faithfulness**

- C. Based on God's **Word** (Romans 4:18)

Romans 4:18 "In hope against hope he believed, in order that he might become a father of many nations, according to that which had been spoken, 'So shall your descendants be.'"

- D. Assured by God's **Trustworthiness** (Romans 4:20-21)

Romans 4:20-21 "²⁰Yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief, but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, ²¹and being fully assured that what He had promised, He was able also to perform."

WHAT DID ABRAHAM DO?

- E. Obedient to God's **Commands** (Romans 4:22)

Romans 4:22 "Therefore also it was reckoned to him as righteousness."

Romans 3:28 "For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law."

James 2:21-24 "21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? 22 You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; 23 and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, 'And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,' and he was called the friend of God. 24 You see that a man is justified by works, and not by faith alone."

III. The Application For Us Today

- A. The Unrighteous Are Justified Through **Faith**

Romans 4:24-25 "24 but for our sake also, to whom it will be reckoned, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 He who was delivered up because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification."

- B. The Righteous Are to Live by **Faith**

Colossians 2:6 "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him."

Conclusion