

The Kind of Faith that Saves

Romans 4

Apart from Self Effort

Romans 4:1-8 [NLT]

Abraham was, humanly speaking, the founder of our Jewish nation. What did he discover about being made right with God?

If his good deeds had made him acceptable to God, he would have had something to boast about. But that was not God's way. For the Scriptures tell us, **“Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.”**

When people work, their wages are not a gift, but something they have earned. But people are **counted as righteous, not because of their work, but because of their faith in God** who forgives sinners. David also spoke of this when he described the happiness of those who are declared righteous without working for it:

“Oh, what joy for those whose **disobedience is forgiven**, whose sins are put out of sight. Yes, what joy for those whose record the Lord has cleared of sin.”

~~Faith in Obedience~~

What about faith in faith?

Faith in the Promise Giver

Genesis 15:1-6 [NLT]

Some time later, the Lord spoke to Abram in a vision and said to him, “Do not be afraid, Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward will be great.”

But Abram replied, “O Sovereign Lord, what good are all your blessings when I don’t even have a son? Since you’ve given me no children, Eliezer of Damascus, a servant in my household, will inherit all my wealth. You have given me no descendants of my own, so one of my servants will be my heir.”

Then the Lord said to him, “No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own who will be your heir.” Then the Lord took Abram outside and said to him, “Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That’s how many descendants you will have!”

And **Abram believed the Lord, and the Lord counted him as righteous because of his faith.**

Apart from Pedigree (Ceremonies)

Romans 4:9-12 [NLT]

Is this blessedness only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised?

We have been saying that **Abraham's faith was credited to him as righteousness.**

Under what circumstances was it credited? **Was it after he was circumcised, or before?**

It was not after, but before! And he received circumcision as a sign, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised.

So then, **he is the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised**, in order that righteousness might be credited to them. And he is then **also the father of the circumcised** who not only are circumcised but **who also follow in the footsteps of the faith** that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

Apart from Pedigree (Commandments)

Romans 4:13-17 [NLT]

It was **not through the law** that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, **but through the righteousness that comes by faith**. For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

Therefore, the promise comes **by faith, so that it may be by grace** and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—**not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham**. He is the father of us all. As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

~~Faith in Religious Rituals~~
~~Faith in Religious Activities~~
~~Faith in Religious Affiliations~~

What about:

faith in Baptism & Lord Supper?

faith in the Church Attendance?

faith in the Bible Study?

Unwavering Faith in the Promise Giver Apart from Human Understanding & Circumstances

Romans 4:18-22 [NLT]

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead.

Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.”

Unwavering Faith
in the Promise Giver

Unwavering Faith in the Promise Giver Its also for Us

Romans 4:23-25 [NLT]

The words “**it was credited to him**” were written not for him alone, **but also for us**, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who **believe in him** who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification

How confident are you of your salvation?



1

Convinced
and resting
in
confidence



2

Confident
most of the
time



3

Confident
some of
the time



4

Occasionally
confident



5

Rarely
confident



6

Never
confident

Unwavering Faith

Not that we can but HE can

Philippians 1:6

being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus

Ephesians 1:13-14

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.