Romans Lesson 8

Robert Harkrider · Romans 4:1–25 · Series: **Romans**

INTRODUCTION

- That man can be counted as though not guilty, acquitted of sin, made possible only by the grace of God, as he gave his only begotten Son to die in our place.
- We are justified by the grace of God through faith. Not grace only, not faith only.
- God's part is grace. He gave his only begotten son to die for us. Man's part is faith.

1 Abraham, the Example of Justification by Faith

Romans 4:1–5; Romans 3:28; Genesis 15:6

- Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.
- We conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds or the works of the law.
- Abraham lived even before the law of Moses was given. And Abraham was justified by faith.
- Under works of the law, the reward would be of debt. Perfection, you see, is required.
- Do we deserve it? Absolutely not. But will God put that to our account? Yes.

2 James Is Talking About the Works of Obedience

James 2:14–26; James 2:21–24

- James is talking about the works of obedience. Whereas in Romans chapter 4, Paul is talking about the works of the law.
- Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?
- You see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.
- That's the kind of faith that saves. Faith that saves is a faith that obeys.

3 Not in Circumcision, but in Uncircumcision

Romans 4:6–12; Psalm 32:1–2; Galatians 5:6

- Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.
- How was it then reckoned? When he was in circumcision or in uncircumcision, not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision.
- Circumcision availeth nothing, neither uncircumcision, but faith which worketh by love.
- All who believe like Abraham are going to be justified like Abraham.

4 Children of God by Faith in Christ Jesus

Galatians 3:26–29; Titus 3:5; Ephesians 2:8–9

- For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

- It's no more a meritorious work than his repentance. No more a meritorious work than his confession. It is the commandment of God and therefore a work of faith.
- As many of you as have been baptized into Christ, that's how you get into him, it's at that time you put on Christ.
- Not meritorious deeds, not the deeds of the law of Moses, not the kind of works of righteousness which we have done.

5 The Kind of Faith Abraham Had

Hebrews 11:7–19; Romans 4:13–25

- From God's part, grace alone, provided the means of salvation. But my friend, don't confuse those passages as though it says we don't have anything to do.
- What kind of works did Abraham have? He obeyed.
- Whether I understand how God's going to do it or why God's going to do it, I'm going to do what he said. That's the kind of faith Abraham had.
- He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully persuaded that what he had promised he was able also to perform.
- Faith is not a meritorious act, but it must obey.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **It's simply saying, Lord, I trust in you completely, whether I understand why or not, I'll do what you say. Have you obeyed that way? It's the kind of faith that'll save.**

MY NOTES