

JUSTIFIED BY FAITH.

INTRO.:

7/3/2022 PM

A. Text: **Romans 4:1-12.**

B. Regarding the text:

1. In previous lessons Paul has shown that all men need to be justified.
2. Abraham is set forth as an example of justification apart from the Law of Moses.
 - 1) The Jews would readily agree that Abraham was justified.
 - 2) The Jews were proud of their relationship with Abraham (**Matthew 3:9; John 8:33**).
 - 3) He was justified before the Law of Moses was put in place.

I. JUSTIFICATION IS BY FAITH (1-8).

A. **Verse 1-2: Abraham was justified prior to the Law of Moses.**

1. Abraham was justified, but not by obedience to the Old Law.
 - 1) Abraham was called from the Ur of Chaldees (**Genesis 15:7**).
 - 2) Many years before Moses received the law at Sinai.
2. Justification came by faith not by works (**James 2:17-26**).
 - 1) Was Abraham required to do anything?
 - a. First, he was told to leave the Ur of Chaldees (**Genesis 12**).
 - b. Then he was called upon to sacrifice his son Isaac (**Genesis 22**).
 - 2) Justification was not based on any works about which Abraham could boast but was based on God's grace accepted by faith (**vs. 5**) and the obedience that faith produces (**Hebrews 11:8-19**).

B. **Verses 2-8: Abraham's works were not his own.**

1. **Vs. 2:** These works were "ordained of God" (**Ephesians 2:9-10; 2 Timothy 3:17**).
 - 1) Therefore, he could not glory (boast).
 - 2) He acted by faith (**Hebrews 11:17-19; James 2:21**).
2. **Vs. 3:** Abraham believed God. Belief is evidenced by action.
3. **Verses 4-8:** All men are justified through obedience to God's word.
 - 1) **Romans 5:1; Galatians 3:11**.
 - 2) Men are blessed by forgiveness (**verses 7-8**).

II. THIS BLESSEDNESS IS AVAILABLE TO ALL MEN (9-12).

A. **Vs. 9-10:**

1. If Abraham could be justified apart from the Law of Moses, others could be as well.
 - 1) His obedient faith was reckoned to him for righteousness.
 - 2) This fact defeated the Judaizers requiring Gentiles to be circumcised.
 - 3) This would be an ongoing problem (**Galatians 5:2-3; 6:12**).
2. Abraham was pronounced righteous 29 years before his circumcision (**Genesis 17:24**).
 - 1) His justification is an example of salvation for all who believe, whether circumcised or not.
 - 2) This defeated the argument from the Judaizers.

B. **Verse 11-12:**

1. Paul emphasizes that faith was the medium of Abraham's justification.
2. His obedience, demonstrated his faith (**James 2:21-24, 26**).
3. The same is true today (**Galatians 5:6**).
 - 1) A faith that works by love (**Romans 10:17; John 14:15**).
 - 2) **1 Thessalonians 1:3**.

III. CONCLUSION:

A. The Lord promised blessings to all who obey.

B. We sometimes sing, "We will work till Jesus comes..."