

Romans 4 — Highlighting the Unique Character of Christian Faith

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Introduction

A. ALWAYS A RESPONSE OF FAITH, NOT A RECORD OF GOOD WORKS (4:1-8)

- a. Boasting is out (even for Abraham) Genesis 15:6
- b. God's credit of righteousness is His gift – I trust Him and receive His gift
- c. It's a great joy to know (with David) that God declares me 'not guilty'

(Justification) — Psalm 32:1-2

B. HOW EXTENSIVE IS ITS BLESSING? (4:9-12)

- a. Father Abraham (faith key, comes first – circumcision a sign and seal of faith ---> 14 years later
- b. His spiritual descendants – any person in the world who has faith in God like Abraham did

C. IT'S ABOUT BELIEVING GOD'S PROMISE (4:13-17a)

- a. What has God done in response? — Delivered people over (v.24-31)
- b. What have people done? — celebrated & continued the moral chaos (v.32)

D. THE OBJECT OF OUR FAITH IS BOTH POWERFUL AND TRUSTWORTHY (4:17-25)

- a. We know what God is like
- b. We trust him with our eyes of faith wide open
- c. By faith we also are in credit with God