

## **Abraham: A Model of Faith**

### **Romans 4:16-25**

Paul's aim is to bring clarity to believers in Rome, especially Jewish believers, about the nature of salvation. He has been using Abraham as a model of faith for them. He reasons that if Abraham was justified through his faith by God's grace in God's promise, then Christians, even Jewish Christians, do not need to obey the OT law in order to obtain salvation. Very simply, as Abraham was justified through faith in the promise of God, his spiritual offspring are justified through faith in the risen Christ – all by God's grace.

- *God's Sure Promise (Vs 16-17)*
- *Abraham's Steady Faith (Vs 18-22)*
- *The Christian's Gospel Hope (Vs 23-25)*

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. (17) For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith. (Romans 1:16-17 ESV)*

***For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. (Romans 4:13 ESV)***

***For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”  
(Romans 6:23 ESV)***

***Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. (5) And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness...(Romans 4:4-5 ESV)***

***Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1 ESV)***

***By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.  
(Hebrews 11:3 ESV)***

***In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1 ESV)***

***Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— (14) so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith. (Galatians 3:13-14 ESV)***

***[They] exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and birds and creeping things...because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! (Romans 1:23, 25 ESV)***

***By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, (18) of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” (19) He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. (Hebrews 11:17-19 ESV)***

*The only way to be declared righteous before God is through faith in Christ, just like Abraham was only declared righteous by believing God's promises to him, and that by the grace of God.*

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***Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (4) to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, (5) who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. (6) In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, (7) so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:3-7 ESV)***

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