

Galatians 3:6–9

⁶ just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”

⁷ Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.

⁸ And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.”

⁹ So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.

The Children of Abraham **Galatians 3:6-9**

INTRO:

The evidence which should have kept the Galatian from abandoning the truth and entertaining the false teachers was first experiential (how they received their salvation and the indwelling Holy Spirit). Second, was the evidence from the Scripture itself.

I. Abraham the great Example (v. 6)

Galatians 3:6 *“Just as Abraham ‘believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.’”*

A. **Verse 6** marks the transition from the argument for salvation *“without works of the Law”* grounded in other believer’s receiving the Holy Spirit, to the Scriptural evidence in the Old Testament.

B. We are tempted to say when we read **verse 6** that this is review. After all, the Apostle Paul argued this point in **Romans 4**. However, we may forget **Galatians** was written years before **Romans** was penned. The statement is a quote from **Genesis 15:6** *“And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.”*

C. This point is shattering to the false-teachers. They based their teaching on the greatest Jew of all time, Abraham. They no doubt taught what extra Biblical Jewish literature taught, Abraham was justified by his works. Clearly, this is not what the Bible taught. Abraham believed and was saved just like we are today. Remember, Abraham existed centuries before the law code existed. This was also a long time before God even instituted circumcision. This point was not lost on our Apostle.
Romans 4:10–11 *“How then was it accounted? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised. And he*

received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also.”

II. We Who Believe are Blessed in Abraham (v.7-9)

Galatians 3:7–9 *“Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, ‘In you all the nations shall be blessed.’ So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.”*

A. The Apostle Paul drew the obvious conclusion from all this saying unequivocally, *“Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.”* Can you see these Judaizes jumping up and crying foul here? Abraham was the father of the people of God, the Jews. You can’t possibly be saying he is the father of only those saved by faith and not of us zealous Law keepers and circumcisers? That is exactly what Paul said.

B. How can you say these things? The Apostle demonstrated his case from the Old Testament again.

“And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, ‘In you all the nations shall be blessed.’”

Our Apostle quoted a promise which is repeated many times to Abraham and to his family. For example, in

Genesis 12:2-3 *“I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”*

Another place God promised this blessing to Abraham was in **Genesis 18:18**.

“Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?”

B. Paul concluded in words the Judaizes hated, but was inescapable. *“So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.”* How are we blessed in Abraham?

1. Perhaps we should look at how we are not blessed. The Jews thought that because they were physical descendants of Abraham they were automatically saved for all eternity. **John 1:11-13** tells us a much different story.

“He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

2. We are blessed because in Abraham we have Christ. Christ came as a child of Abraham. God chose Abraham as the father of the line in which Christ came. When we by faith become a child of God and an heir of the blessings of Abraham, we by faith become a part of the family of God’s people in Christ.

3. The greatest blessing is that we are forgiven of all our sins. We close with the great statement we began with in **verse 6**. Just as Abraham believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness. We believe upon God in Christ and He declares us righteous. Just as if we have never sinned and as if we had always done right.

Have you received Christ by faith alone?

My Sins Are Blotted Out I Know