

JUSTIFICATION BEFORE GOD IS NOT BY LAW {Romans 4:13-25}

Justification does not mean to make a person righteous {this is practical sanctification}, nor to merely pardon or forgive a guilty sinner {though justification involves this} but it is a legal or judicial act of God by which He announces as a judge that the believer in Christ is now _____ before God.

Justification before God is a one-time, non-repeatable act by God that can never be overturned or changed.

C. The EXAMPLES of JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH APART FROM WORKS. (4:1-8)

1. Example #1 of Justification by faith alone in the Lord alone apart from works: ABRAHAM. (4:1-5)
2. Example #2 of Justification by faith alone in the Lord alone apart from works: DAVID. (4:6-8)

D. The EXPANDED CLARIFICATION of JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH ALONE. (4:9-22)

1. Abraham was justified by faith alone in the Lord alone apart from the RITUAL of CIRCUMCISION. (4:9-12)
2. Abraham was justified by faith alone in the Lord alone apart from the _____. (4:13-17)
 - Notice the line of reasoning in vs. 13-16 by the connectives:
 - Observe the antithesis between the law vs promise & faith.
 - a. The *reality* - Abraham received the _____ of God {Gen. 12:3; Gal. 3:8} and _____ RIGHTEOUSNESS from God by simple _____ in the Lord and NOT through the _____. {4:13}.
 - b. The *reasoning* – If God’s blessings of righteousness & inheritance were through the Law, then faith is _____ and the promise of God is _____ {4:14} because the Law brings about _____ for non-compliance to its violators, especially those who know better, as no one keeps the Law. {4:15}
 - c. The *reason* for justification by faith alone {4:16} - *Therefore* {on account of this reason} *it* {justification} *is of* {by} _____ {alone} *that it might be according to* {in keeping with} _____, *so that the* _____ {of God} *might be* _____ {guaranteed; certain} *to all the seed* {spiritual seed or children of God – 4:11-12}, *not only to those who are of the law* {the Jews}, *but also to those* {Gentiles} *who are of the faith of Abraham* {Gen. 15:6}, *who is the father* {spiritually} *of us* _____ {Jews & Gentiles}.
 - d. The *reference* supporting this conclusion is _____ {4:17} - *(as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations* {ethnos – many people groups} *") in the presence of Him whom he* _____ {one condition} — *GOD* {one object of faith}, *who gives life to the* {sexually} *dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did* {such as the conception & birth of Isaac};
3. Abraham was justified by faith in the Lord because GOD’S _____ are faithfully fulfilled by GOD’S _____. {4:18-22} Can you trust God’s power to fulfill His promises? _____. {4:18-21}

18 *Who* {Abraham}, _____ {against} } *to hope* {human logic of future fulfillment}, *in* _____ {confidence of God’s future blessing as anchored in God’s promises} _____ {trusted God would do

what He had promised}, *so that* {as a result} *he became the father of many nations*, {as promised} *according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be."*{quoting Genesis 15:5}

19 *And NOT being weak in faith* {how did he do this?}, *he did* _____ {factor in the facts from a human perspective}

- a. *his own* {human} *body, already dead* {sexually} (*since he was about a hundred years old* – Gen. 17:1),
- b. *and the* {sexual} *deadness of Sarah's womb.*

20 *He did* _____ *at the* _____ *through* _____,

- a. *but was strengthened in* {by} _____,
- b. _____ *to God,*
- c. *and being fully convinced that* _____ *He had* _____ *He was also* _____ {had the power} _____ {to fulfill or accomplish what He had promised, and He did – Gen. 21:1-5! {4:21}}

What is the *conclusion* from the previous illustration of how God's power faithfully fulfills His promises? {4:22} *And therefore* {this is the conclusion} *"it* {Abraham's simple faith in the Lord} *was accounted* {aorist, passive, indicative of logizomai – 19x in Romans 4} *to him* {Abraham} *for* {resulting in} *righteousness* {of or from God – 3:21}."

E. The ENDING APPLICATIONS on JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH ALONE. {4:23-25}

1. **The purpose of Paul using the illustration of Abraham's justification before God: *Now it was NOT written for his sake* _____ *that it* {the righteousness of God} *was* _____ {credited or accounted} *to him* {Abraham - by God's grace alone through faith alone in the Lord alone apart from works, rituals, or law}, **24 but also** {in addition, it was written} *for* _____ {Church-age believers - whether Jew or Gentile}. **It** {the righteousness of God in justification} *shall be* {it was going to be} _____ *to us* {Church-age believers} *who* _____ *in Him who raised up* _____ {Yeshua – Yahweh saves; His human name} *our* _____ {Kurios – Lord / deity – His divine title} *from the dead.* {remember 4:17}**
2. **The progressive revelation clarity about the object of faith for our justification before God today: *who* {Jesus our Lord} *was* _____ {aorist tense – past event, passive voice – by God the Father, indicative mood – it's a fact; to be delivered up into the hands of another – in death; Matt. 26:2; Rom. 8:32; retrospectively – why?} **because** {on account of the need to pay for} *of our* _____ {transgressions in offense to God; Isa. 53:5-6,12}, **and** {who – Jesus our Lord} *was* _____ {aorist tense - past event; passive voice – by God the Father; indicative mood – it's a fact; to be raised by God in bodily resurrection} **because of** {prospectively, for the sake of or with a view to accomplish} *our* _____ {being declared righteous before God}.**

- What does this mean for the *believer in Christ* regarding:
 - 1) The eternal security of your justification?
 - 2) The assurance of your justification?
 - 3) The preaching of the Gospel clearly & often?
 - 4) The daily faith-rest life and knowing the promises of God?

- What does this mean for the *lost sinner* yet without Jesus Christ as Savior?