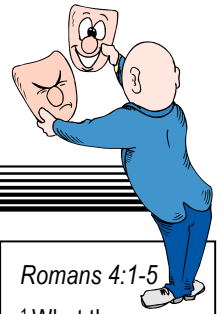


Date: June 13 & 14, 2009
Text: Romans 4:1-5
Topic: Works. Faith.
Study: Romans
Week: 27
Series: 1 of 5
CD #: 09-19

The Gospel According to Abraham

Making Sense of Abraham's Faith & Works

part 1



1. Admit _____ (vv.1-5)

2. Make _____ (vv.1-3; Jms.2:14-24)

3. Police _____ (vv.4-5)

Romans 4:1-5

¹ What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered in this matter? ² If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God.

³ What does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

⁴ Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation.

⁵ However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness. (NIV)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Luke 18:9**. In what ways have you subtly compared your "righteous" acts with the sinful acts of others?

Read **Luke 18:10-14**. How does God's ultimate and incomparable holiness factor in to understanding this parable?

2. Read **1 Corinthians 1:30-31**. Why is a clear understanding of "grace" (i.e., "it is because of him" – v.30a) such an important foundation to understanding the gospel?

3. Read **Philippians 3:7-9**. What is wrong with saying that Christ "helps me be good enough" to be acceptable to God?

How common do you think that mindset is among American churchgoers (i.e., that "God helps me be good enough")?

4. Read **Galatians 3:1-6**. What are some of the indicators that someone is trying to "earn their stay" in God's family (even though they may affirm that they did not earn their entrance into God's family)?

5. Read **1 John 3:5-10**. Why are "good works" so important?

Read Through the Bible in a Year

Here's this week's schedule:

June 14th

2Kgs.24-25 & Ps.1-2

June 15th

1Chr.1-2 & Ps.3-4

June 16th

1Chr.3-4 & Ps.5-6

June 17th

1Chr.5-6 & Ps.7-8

June 18th

1Chr.7-9 & Ps.9-10

June 19th

1Chr.10-11 & Ps.11-12

June 20th

1Chr.12-13 & Ps.13-14

June 21st

1Chr.14-15 & Ps.15-16

Here is a list of other recorded sermons by Pastor Mike which may assist you in your further study of today's message.

CD # 0520 – **The Gospel: Embarking On God's Follow Up Program**

CD # 0604 – **Am I Really a Christian? Working & Trusting to Prove the Reality of My Faith**

CD # 0813 – **How to Get Eternal Life: Getting Honest About Myself**

CD # 9606 – **Changed! God Transforming People**

CD # 0909 – **Reading Scripture in Light of Redemption**

Here are some resources which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in this week's sermon.

Boice, James Montgomery. **Whatever Happened to the Gospel of Grace?** Crossway Books, 2001.

Edwards, Jonathan. **Justification by Faith Alone**. Reprint. Soli Deo Gloria, 2000.

Lloyd-Jones, Martyn. **Assurance of Our Salvation: Studies in John 17**. Crossway Books, 2000.

MacArthur, John. **Faith Works: The Gospel According to the Apostles**. Zondervan, 1994.

MacArthur, John, R. C. Sproul, Joel Beeke, et al. **Justification by Faith (2nd Edition)**. Soli Deo Gloria, 2003.

Murray, John. **Redemption Accomplished and Applied**. Eerdmans, 1984.

Packer, J. I. **A Quest for Godliness**. Crossway Books, 1994.

Piper, John. **Future Grace: The Purifying Power of Living by Faith**. Multnomah Press, 1998.

Saucy, Robert L. "'Sinners' who are Forgiven or 'Saints' who Sin?" **Bibliotheca Sacra** vol.152, no.608 (October 1995).

Schaeffer, Francis A. **The Finished Work of Christ: The Truth of Romans 1 – 8**. Crossway Books, 1998.

Sproul, R. C. **Faith Alone: The Evangelical Doctrine of Justification**. Baker Books, 1995.

Spurgeon, C. H. **All of Grace**. Whitaker House, 1985.

White, James R. **The God Who Justifies**. Bethany House, 2001.