

February 2, 2023
 Romans Lesson 4
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Gen 15:4 "...the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 'This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir.'"

Gen 15:5 "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars...So shall your descendants be."

Gen 15:6 "Then he believed in the LORD; and He [God] reckoned it to him as righteousness."

3

Rom 4:3 "reckoned it to him as righteousness"

LOGIZOMAI = appears 11x in this chapter:
 v.3,4,5,6,8,9,10,11,22,23,24

- It is translated "count, credit, reckon, impute, accounted"
- It is an accounting term meaning "to put to someone's account."

4

Rom 4:3 "reckoned it to him as righteousness"

In God's act of justification, it is used of both positive and negative aspects:

- of God's counting (or crediting) His righteousness to the account of a believer (v.3 Abraham)
- of God's not counting (or charging) the believer's sin against him (v.8 David)

5

The comparison between Abraham and David:

Abraham:

- Physical founder of the Jewish Nation
- Lived & believed in God before the Law of Moses
- Good works did not count for him.
- Righteousness was not credited to him because of good works.

David:

- Royal founder of the Jewish Nation
- Lived & believed in God after the Law of Moses
- Bad deeds were not counted against him.
- Righteousness was not negated because of bad works.

6

Abraham's Chronology:

- Gen 12:1-4 Abraham is called by God to leave his country and become a separate nation for God; 75 years old.
- Gen 13:14-18 God again promises to make a great nation of him and promises him a land. Abraham builds an altar to the Lord.
- Gen 14:1-24 Abraham has a "run-in" with some surrounding kings (rescues Lot; meets Melchizedek).

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Abraham's Chronology:

- Gen 15:1-21 God tells Abraham not to fear; again promises him an heir from his own body. v.6 Abraham believes and is reckoned righteous!
- Gen 16:1-16 Abraham tries to help God by taking Hagar as his wife. Ishmael is born; v.16 Abraham is 86 years old.
- Gen 17:1-27 God tells Abraham he will have a son by Sarah and institutes the sign of circumcision.
v.1 Abraham is 99 and Sarah is 90 (v.17)

Abraham was declared righteous by his faith at least 14 years before he was circumcised!

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Rom 4:11-12 Paul turns a corner:

"that he might be the father of all who believe without being circumcised, that righteousness might be credited to them"

➤ Me !!!

➤ The door of faith is now thrown open to those who follow in the faith of Abraham.

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Romans 3:20 "...by the works of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin."

An awareness of sin came through the Law, not justification!

10

The Two-fold aspect of our salvation:

- Jesus "was delivered over because of our transgressions." = Jesus paid the sin debt for us.
- Jesus "was raised because of our justification." = God declares us righteous when we put our faith in Him.

Jesus was raised to prove that God had accepted His payment for our sin debt.

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The Two-fold aspect of our salvation; the exchange that takes place:

- God places our sins on Jesus; charges our sins to His account.
- God places His righteousness on us; credits His righteousness to our account.

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Questions to ask ourselves:

- What are you counting on to gain a right standing with God? Are you trying to earn it like a wage?
- Or have you put your faith in the work Christ did for you on the cross when He paid your sin debt in full?

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