

Abraham: Justified by Faith, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Romans 4.
- B. Salvation comes through grace by faith.
- C. Abraham is an illustration of a salvation through grace by faith.

II. Abraham.

- A. He is called the friend of God. (James 2)
- B. Much of Genesis is devoted to him.
- C. God chose Abraham sovereignly. (Genesis 12)
 - 1. He came from a background of paganism. (Joshua 24:2)
 - 2. God promised him land, seed and blessing.
 - 3. Through him would come the salvation of the world. (Galatians 3:9)
 - 4. Abraham responds by worshipping the true God.
 - 5. Abraham becomes the model of faith, but he was not perfect. He compromised, committed adultery and was afraid. No man is perfect.
 - 6. He overcame fear and looked forward to the hope that is ahead of him. (Hebrews 12)
- D. We believe as Christians that we will receive what we cannot see like Abraham.

III. Abraham was justified by faith not works.

- A. We cannot do anything to gain merit before God on our own accord.
- B. Christians have no confidence in the flesh. (Philippians 3:3)
- C. True righteousness comes from Christ by faith.
- D. God has declared us righteous by faith.
- E. There is a total transformation—a regeneration. (Ezekiel 6:25, John 3, 2 Corinthians 5, Titus 3:5)
- F. Faith is never the basis for justification.
 - 1. It is not a work that we earn salvation by.

2. It is the hand that one reaches out to receive.

3. Faith is not meritorious.

G. Saving faith includes...

1. Facts. (Galatians 1, 2 John)

2. Agreement with the facts.

3. Internalizing the facts.

4. Trust.

5. Hope. (2 Thessalonians 2:13)

IV. Abraham was justified by grace not law.

V. Abraham was justified by divine power.

Application Questions:

1. How can the imperfections of Abraham encourage us?

2. When have you experienced your own inability to live a godly life by yourself?

3. How would you describe faith to a nonbeliever and distinguish it from works? Explain.
