



## THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS "Facing Up to Faith" Romans 4:1-25

No. 284

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We have all been taught that there is no such thing as a free lunch, but that does not mean that nothing is free—it means that if something is given freely somebody footed the bill. So it is with salvation, but man has to believe that salvation is free because God paid the price.

### I. The Father of Faith. vv. 1-4

- A. Abraham's exemplary life. Genesis 26:5
- B. But Abraham cannot boast before God.
- C. Because he was reckoned righteous by faith.

### II. The Forgiveness of Faith. vv. 5-8

- A. Works produce wages.
- B. Faith receives gifts.
- C. Imputed righteousness is "blessedness."
- D. Because:
  - 1. Transgressions are forgiven.
  - 2. Sins are covered.
  - 3. Man is not held accountable.

### III. The Family of Faith. vv. 9-16

- A. Abraham—Father of the Jews—Isaac.
- B. Abraham—Father of the Arabs—Ishmael.
- C. Abraham—"Father of us all"—faith.
  - 1. Circumcision is not determining factor.
    - a. Abraham justified 14 years before circumcised.
    - b. Abraham justified—circumcision the seal.
  - 2. Law is not determining factor.
    - a. Abraham justified 430 years before law was given.
    - b. Law teaches sinfulness of sin.
    - c. Law is mirror but not soap.
  - 3. Faith is determining factor.
    - a. Circumcised/uncircumcised believers are justified.
    - b. Circumcised/uncircumcised unbelievers are not.

### IV. The Factors of Faith. vv. 17-25

- A. Faith—confidence in a person. vv. 17-18
  - 1. God gives life to death.
  - 2. God calls existence out of nothing.
- B. Faith—conversant with problems. v. 19
  - 1. He faced the facts.
  - 2. He applied his faith.
- C. Faith—consistent in progress. v. 20
  - 1. Delays and disappointments were his lot.
  - 2. They served only to strengthen.
- D. Faith—convinced of the promises. v. 21
  - 1. Divine integrity—He promised.
  - 2. Divine ability—He was able. (e.g. v. 25)