



Empowering People to Change the World

Abraham Father of Our Faith

Steve Holt

© Steve Holt | TheRoad.org

Road Declaration

Comments about Conference...

- **Several men and women came up and told us that they had never dealt with the abortion they were a part of and are now getting set free...**
- **The revolutionary information shared I have never heard before...**

The Father of Faith—Abraham

We are looking at Abraham, the *Man of Faith*, whom Paul has chosen to guide us into the next part of Romans.

- Abraham came from the Ur of the Chaldees, a very modern Sumerian civilization in southern Iraq.

“Assyrians invented timekeeping, paved roads, door keys, libraries, magnifying glasses, aqueducts, flushing toilets and even guitars. They also pioneered the calendar.” (METRO, August 16, 2007)

- Es Haddon, found in the Bible, had over a 30,000-volume library that included astronomy, observation of the northern lights, and solar activity.
- Their mining was as modern as ours is today. They were mining crystal, gold, and silver used to make the most sophisticated pottery and tools that even rivals modern times.
- The earliest harp was found in Ur.
- They even were working on the early forms of a telescope.

“With the glass bowls was discovered a rock-crystal, with opposite convex and plane faces. Its properties could scarcely have been unknown to the Assyrians, and we have consequently the earliest specimen of a magnifying and burning-glass from ancient Assyria...it gives a tolerably distinct focus. Its plane surface must be greatly inclined to the axis of the hexagonal prism of quartz from which it must have been taken...intended to be used as a lens, either for magnifying, or concentrating the rays of the sun.” (Discoveries in the Ruins of Nineveh and Babylon by Austen H. Layard pp. 197-198)

- Ur had the first law writings and were even ruled by a constitution, leadership, congress like we have today.
- Abraham was a very wealthy leader and farmer in Ur.

- Ur had adopted Inanna, a moon goddess, as its patron. Abraham's father was an idol worshipper.
- Abraham was born in Ur a few generations after Babel. The most likely site of Ur is Tel Muqayyar in southern Mesopotamia, about 140 miles (225 km) south of ancient Babylon.
- Abraham left there at the height of its splendor and power. Instead of seeking wealth and fame on earth, he looked for a greater city "whose builder and maker is God" (*Hebrews 11:10*). That city can be seen only with the eyes of faith.
- Abraham was originally named Abram, which means in Hebrew *exalted father*. The Bible tells us that God changed his name to Abraham, meaning *father of a multitude* [of nations] because it was in God's eternal plan, after Babel, to raise up a chosen people for Himself through Abraham (*Genesis 18:18–19*).

Genesis 12:1-3

- God called Abram to leave his country and through his faith in the One True God, God would bless him.
- The years go by and Abram and his wife Sarai, do not have a child and God encounters Abram again.

Genesis 15:1-6

- Through his faith, God blesses Abraham with Isaac and from Isaac came the great nation of Israel, from where the Messiah came, Jesus, who birthed the church, which now covers the globe.

Isaiah 9:6-7

**“For unto us a Child is born,
 Unto us a Son is given;
 And the government will be upon His shoulder.
 And His name will be called
 Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
 Of the increase of *His* government and peace
There will be no end,
 Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom,
 To order it and establish it with judgment and justice**

**From that time forward, even forever.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.”**

Abraham is the Father of a Kingdom of God Revolution!

Romans 4:1-2

- The Jew had been taught from infancy that their distinctive place as a nation was built on their ancestry, their physical lineage from Abraham.
- In Chapter 4, Paul is emphasizing that justification by faith is not a new concept:
 - this principle was active even before the Mosaic Law.
 - even before circumcision was established.
 - the two principal examples will be the two most important men in the Jewish religion, Abraham and David.
 - Paul will show us that Abraham and David are the best examples that God established the principle of faith long before Christ came.
- You see, even Abraham was not justified by his works! He has nothing to boast about.
- There is no good in Abraham any more than there is any good in anyone of us in the human race.
- You cannot reform your flesh! Your fleshly, sinful nature will always be fleshly and sinful.
 - You don't reform or rehabilitate your flesh.
 - You starve it to death...you don't feed it.
 - The problem is when we attempt to send our fleshly nature to *reform school* and think we can change it.
 - You can't change it—you must let it die, starve it to death with neglect.
 - Jesus said you must lose your life :

“For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.” (Matthew 16:25)

Verse 3

- This is one of the most profound passages in all of the Bible.
- Memorize this verse! It is the theme of the entire Bible.
- **It is not saying that Abraham *believed in* God or believed in the existence of God.**
 - **Even the demons believe in God.**
 - **Even Satan believes in God.**
- **No, it says, “Abraham believed God,” something God said about coming! He was believing God would come through His Son.**
 - It is believing in the God of the Bible and His plan for salvation!
 - Abraham understood that God was going to bring a Salvation Seed that would come through his descendants: he was believing in Jesus before Jesus.
- The word used here for “accounted” is *logizomai*.
 - It is used forty-one times in the New Testament.
 - Nineteen times in Romans.
 - Eleven times in Chapter 4 alone.
 - Our New King James Version uses the words “accounted,” “counted,” and “imputed.”
 - It is a mathematical calculation in which God is saying that He has written off as gone forever all of the sin in your life if you have trusted in His vicarious atonement through Jesus Christ.
 - God has then deposited into your account His own righteousness to your credit.
 - So the books that once showed you completely bankrupt now show that you are the possessor of all that God requires for eternal life.

- You have walked into the bank where you had zero in your account and suddenly you find that someone has deposited one million dollars...simply as a gift—they have given you the money!!
 - Our righteousness account ledger was zero, and God deposited the full measure of His righteousness into our account.
- So, what does God want?
 - He wants us to believe!
 - He gives us a free gift and He is willing to declare us righteous if we will just believe.
 - What does God want? He wants to be believed.

Thomas Bradbury put together eight passages from the Bible which show the various aspects of Justification by Faith.

Eight Essential Truths about our Justification:

1. We are justified by the sovereignty of God.

Romans 8:33

“Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.”

2. We are justified without a cause in us by His grace.

Romans 3:24

“being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...”

3. We are justified by the virtue of the blood of Christ.

Romans 5:9

“Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.”

4. We are justified by the obedience of Christ.

Romans 5:19

“For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.”

5. We are justified by the resurrection of Christ.

Romans 4:25

“who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.”

6. We are justified by the power of the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 6:11

“And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”

7. We are justified by the faith of Christ.

Galatians 2:16

“knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.”

8. And finally, the evidence of our justification is to be found in our works, our changed life.

James 2:24

“You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.”

- So, faith is the condition, not the basis of our salvation.
- God is the One we trust and it is His free grace that warrants and elicits our confidence!

Verses 4-8

- There is a vast difference between wages and a gift.

- Some may see this passage is heretical! “What do you mean all the stuff I have done for God? I was baptized, confirmed, and I have hardly ever missed my confessional.”
- “Haven’t I earned my salvation?”
- If man can produce the character and quality of works that can meet the demands of God, then it goes without saying that that man should go to heaven. He can go to heaven’s gate like it’s the cashier’s window at work and cash his check of righteousness.
- And this is what many in the Church have believed: thus, creating a *holier than thou attitude* and self-righteousness...this is a curse among Christians.
- This is why Christians get prideful and boast! They think that it is their righteousness that has given them right standing before God.
- What are our works as a believer?

- They are simply a response to God for all that He has done in our lives!

- **2 Corinthians 5:14**

“For the love of Christ compels us...”

- **We are under a New Law—the Law of Love!**
- **Love is the highest motivating force! We don’t love to earn God’s favor, we love because He has shown us favor.**
- If love doesn’t motivate you in God’s work, you will be very frustrated.
- But when we are motivated out of love for God and people, God can do amazing things through each of us.
- Our works are a response to Jesus for His salvation! This is how we know that we are saved...a changed life.
- So many of you are “trophies of grace” saved out of the dung pile of sin and rebellion!

- We have people in this room who have committed every imaginable sin and now you are walking in great freedom and grace...what an amazing grace, what an amazing God.

Verses 7-8

- The word “blessed” means *how happy*.
- How happy is the man who no longer has any sin imputed to him!
- Do you understand that God no longer charges you with any sin if you are believing in Christ?
- All the sin of the world was laid upon a Christ, stripped naked and beaten beyond all recognition—all was placed upon Him.
- He took the wrath! He took your sin! All of it.
- 1 John 1:7
 - “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”
- **Come to Jesus today! If you have never given your heart to Christ, do so today**
- **If you are a prodigal...if you are running from God, come to Him...He really loves you and wants a relationship with you**
- **Romans 10:9-10**
 - “...if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”**
- “But Steve, you don’t know what I’ve done?” I don’t care what you’ve done, I care what He has done!
- He has done it all and you can walk out of here in the freedom of Christ.