

ROMANS 17 – 4:17-25

Imputed Righteousness

1. 4:16-18

- a. *"father of us all"* - that is in righteousness imputed by faith as in Rom 4:3-6, 11
- b. *"father of many nations"* – Gen 17:5, God had done it already; Gal 3:8, Gen 12:3
- c. We don't become Israel, the seed many, nor inherit their earthly things - Gal 3:16
- d. *"before him whom he believed"* → the only sense he is our father Gal 3:7,9, 22, 28
- e. *"even God"* - The object of our faith, gratitude, and glory
- f. *"quickeneth the dead"* - God has the power of life Gen 2:7, John 5:21, 1 Tim 6:13
- g. *"callet those things..."* to do what he says – Gen 1:3, Isa 41:22, 43:5-11, 46:9-10
- h. *"believed in hope"* – what he believed is different than us – Heb 11:1, 8-19

2. 4:19

- a. *"considered not"* – This is not word-faith, name it-claim it; it is Phil 3:3
- b. Weak faith vs. strong faith - difference is the object of our faith, not the person
- c. Faith is strong when we are weak – 2 Cor 5:7, 12:9-10; 1 Cor 1:27
- d. The law is weak, our flesh is weak – (Mat 26:41), Rom 8:3, 14:1, Gal 4:9
- e. Faith comes by hearing the word, not by power of will – Rom 10:17, Phil 4:13
- f. The *"little faith"* had to do with understanding – Mat 6:30, 16:7-9, 17:20, Luk 17:5
- g. Abe's faith was strong because of God's ability, not his or Sarah's inability

3. 4:20-21

- a. *"staggered not"* – yet we see that he laughed in Gen 17:17; and Sarah in Gen 18:12
- b. *"giving glory to God"* – by faith in his promise, despite his age
- c. *"fully persuaded"*- Which comes from Rom 3:4, 1Thes 2:13, 1Tim 4:13-16
- d. Boldness, stubbornness, education, tradition are often mistaken for conviction
- e. God's word is able to stablish (stabilize) and root – Col 2:7, Eph 4:14, Rom 16:25
- f. There are things we don't know, but one thing we should – 1 Cor 2:2; 2 Tim 1:12

4. 4:22-25

- a. *"therefore"* – because he was persuaded, he believed, faith in God's promise
- b. *"imputed to him"* – not imparted to him as if it were Abraham's righteousness
- c. *"not for his sake alone"* – We learn from all scripture – 2 Tim 3:15-16, Rom 15:4
- d. The mystery of the gospel explains any man's salvation, tho they didn't know
- e. The mystery of Christ was kept secret intentionally – 1 Cor 2:7, Eph 3:4-6, 9-10
- f. *"if we believe..."* the condition for imputed righteousness, non-imputation of sins
- g. *"on him that raised up..."* - the content of our faith is different – 2 Tim 2:8
- h. 4:25 – declares the good news of the cross as Paul does also in 1 Cor 15:1-4
- i. Our imputed righteousness is by faith in the gospel, not through Abe or Israel