

“What Abraham Found”

Romans 4:1-8

- 1) What is Paul’s purpose in bringing Abraham into his discussion of justification by faith apart from works?
- 2) What was the general Jewish perspective regarding Abraham and how he was regarded by God?
- 3) What did Abraham “find” in terms of “works”?
- 4) What is the context in which Genesis 15:6 appears?
- 5) What does it mean “it was reckoned to him as righteousness”? How did this “reckoning” come about?
- 6) How would you respond to claim that Abraham’s faith was either a “work” or was “meritorious”?
- 7) What is the contrast that Paul presents in verses 4-5?
- 8) What is Paul’s point in the contrast he presents in verses 4-5?
- 9) How does the fact that God is the One “who justifies the ungodly” support the argument that justification is “apart from works”?
- 10) How are we to “reconcile” Paul and James (Rom. 4:1-8 with James 2:21-24)?
- 11) In verses 6-8 Paul cites David’s words from Psalm 32:1-2 to support a God-credited righteous apart from works. What is the particular “blessing” that is referenced here?
- 12) How does this Psalm support Paul’s argument?
- 13) How is God able not to “account” sin to us?

14) On the basis of what Paul says in verses 1-8, how would you describe what “justification” is?

15) How should this “blessing” affect and influence our lives as believers?