

## **“Abraham, the Father of Believers”**

Romans 4:9-16

- 1) If verses 1-8 clearly teach that justification is apart from works, what do verses 9-12 and verses 13-16 teach respecting justification by faith?
- 2) What place did circumcision have respecting Abraham’s being credited with righteousness?
- 3) What was the significance of Abraham’s circumcision according to verse 11a?
- 4) What was God’s purpose in the “delay” between the time of Abraham’s being credited with righteousness and receiving the sign of circumcision?
- 5) Who are Abraham’s “true” descendants according to verses 11-12?
- 6) On what basis does Paul assert that Abraham received the promise that he would be “heir of the world”?
- 7) What texts would support Paul’s assertion of such a promise to Abraham? (see Gen. 12:3; 13:16; 15:5, 12-21; 17:5-6, 8; 18:18; 22:17-18)
- 8) What does it mean to “be heir of the world”? (see, for example, 1 Cor. 3:21-23; 6:2-3; Eph. 1:10-11, 14; Col. 1:12-13; Rev. 11:15)
- 9) Why does an inheritance according to the Law void faith and nullify the promise?
- 10) How does the Law “bring about wrath”?
- 11) Why does faith correspond (or accord) so well with grace? (consider Rom. 4:4-5)
- 12) What does God’s grace mean with respect to the promise? How is this so?
- 13) What difference should it make in our lives as we realize that through faith in Christ we are “heirs of the world”?