

Reflection Questions

Doctrine (What does this passage teach us):

What was the object of Abraham's faith?

Reproof (What wrong thinking does this passage expose):

What happened when Abraham saw the stars?

Correction (How does this passage fix wrong thinking):

Why is it wrong to define faith as blind?

Instruction in Righteousness (How does this passage help us to continue):

How does the resurrection build up our faith?

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, April 17, 2022

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ John 2:13-22

Song #252 ~ See, What a Morning

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Job 11:1-20

Song #281 ~ O Great God

Scripture Reading: Job 12:1-25

Prayer

Sermon ~ Roman 4:17-25

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #256 ~ Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Psalm 3:3

"But You, O Lord, are a shield about me,
My glory, and the One who lifts my head."

Pastor Dan Benitez ~ 813-751-4305

www.CalvaryBaptistTampa.com

Text: Romans 4:17-25

Theme: Justified by faith alone (cf. 5:1)

- I) Abraham, an example that justification is by faith, believed the promises of God (17-21).
 - A. God promised to make Abraham a Father of many nations (17).
 - 1. God changed Abram's name to Abraham, which means "father of many nations" (Gen. 17:5). Can you imagine Abraham explaining to his friends that he would like for them to call him Abraham? As Abraham walks away, they begin to chuckle at the absurdity. Yet, Abraham believed the promise.
 - B. God was the object of his faith (17).
 - 1. Abraham knew that God gives life to the dead (17). In fact, when God asks Abraham to offer Isaac on the altar, Abraham believed that God would raise him from the dead (cf. Heb. 11:19).
 - 2. Abraham knew that God creates life where there is no life (17). The book of Genesis begins with God creating out of nothing.
 - C. He believed even though the situation seemed hopeless (18-21).
 - 1. His body was 100 years old, yet he was not weak in faith (19).
 - 2. Sarah's womb was well-past child bearing, yet he believed the promise (19).
 - 3. Faith does not ignore reality (20-21). Abraham recognized the situation. But Abraham believed God because God gives life to the dead and creates life out of nothing (17).
 - 4. Because the situation was hopeless, all the glory goes to God (20).
- II) Abraham's justification by faith was not only for his sake (22-25).
 - A. This declaration of Abraham's justification was also for *our* benefit (22-23).
 - 1. It's easy for us to read the OT as stories that are disconnected from us, but God's declaration to Abraham was also intended for us.
 - 2. Although we are not the original audience, the whole OT is written for our benefit. For example, the events of the Exodus happened as examples for us that we would not crave evil things (1 Cor. 10:6).
 - B. Abraham saw the stars and believed God (Gen. 15:5-6); we believe God raised Jesus from the dead (24-25).
 - 1. Faith is not blind. Faith latches on to an objective proof. There is no greater proof that Christ's death atoned for our sins than the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The resurrection is proof that the Father's wrath was satisfied at the cross.
 - 2. Christ's death was for our transgressions (25). His resurrection was for our justification.