

Outline of Romans

- I. Opening to the Letter (1:1-17)
- II. The Gospel Explained: Justification by Faith Alone (1:18—4:25)
 - A. Our Lack of Personal Righteousness (1:18—3:20)
 - B. God's Gift of Imputed Righteousness (3:21-31)
 - C. A Biblical Defense of Justification (4:1-25)

A Biblical Defense of Justification (4:1-25)

1. On What Basis Are We Made Right with God (1-8)?
2. Who Can Be Made Right with God (9-12)?
3. By What Means Are We Made Right with God (13-25)?

Can / Be Justified?

Romans 4:9-12

- I. The Real Question: Is Justification Only for the Jews? (9)
- II. The Key Issue: When Was Abraham Justified? (10-11a)
- III. The Divine Purpose: Why Does It Matter? (11b-12)
 - A. Abraham becomes the spiritual father of all Gentiles who believe (11b-c).
 - B. Abraham becomes the spiritual father of all Jews who believe (12).

The Lessons for Us...

1. The gospel is God's way of salvation for all people!
2. If you are a Christian, Abraham is your spiritual father and the spiritual promises God made him and his Seed [that is, Christ] are yours!
3. Having the sign of justification did not save Abraham and similar external signs will never save you!