

BUT NOW! (3:21-4:25)

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE CAN BE JUSTIFIED BY FAITH IN JESUS (ROM. 3:21-31)

- How is the “righteousness of God” (v. 21) received (vv. 22-25)? Who can receive it (v.22)? (Question 1)
- Why is it important that the “righteousness of God” be revealed “apart from the law” (v. 21)? (Question 2)
- Why would God be willing to “put forward” (2 Cor. 5:25) His own Son? What does this say about His character? (Question 5)
- Why didn't God just forgive sinners? Why did Jesus have to die? (Question 7)
- How should verses 27-30 affect your attitude toward unbelievers or less mature Christians? (Question 11)

THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM PROVES THAT FAITH WAS THE ONLY MEANS OF SALVATION (ROM. 4:1-16)

- How does Paul dispute the idea that Old Testament believers were saved by their works (vv. 1-8)? (Question 13)
- Why would requiring perfect obedience render God's “promise” (vv. 13-14) to Abraham “void” (v. 14)? (Question 15)
- What lesser purposes vie for your attention and effort? How can you more fully live in the purpose God has given you? (Question 18)

ABRAHAM'S RIGHTEOUS LIFE DEMONSTRATED HIS FAITH IN GOD'S PROMISE (ROM. 4:17-25)

- What made God's promise to Abraham seem impossible (v. 19)? How was Abraham able to resist doubting God's promise (vv. 20-21)? (Question 19)
- Why does “[giving] glory to God” in the midst of a trial allow you to “[grow] strong in [your] faith” (v. 20)? (Question 20)
- Based on the example of Abraham (vv. 17-22), how would you describe or define faith? (Question 22)

GOD HAS JUSTIFIED US BY FAITH IN CHRIST FOR DOING GOOD WORKS

- What contradiction seems to exist between James 2:20-24 and Romans 4:1-8? (Question 25)
- How would you respond to a friend who claims that God's love is based on our good works? (Question 26)
- How would you respond to a friend who claims that his belief in Jesus excuses him to continue in sin? (Question 27)