**Romans 4: “Faith That Changes Our Future Eternally…**

**7/10/22**

* **…Was Experienced In The O.T. By ABRAHAM And David.**

***28****For we maintain that a person is* ***justified by faith*** *apart from the works of the law.****29****Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too,****30****since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith.****31****Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.* Romans 3:28-31

*What then shall we say that* ***Abraham****, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter?****2****If, in fact, Abraham was* ***justified by works****, he had something to boast about—but not before God.****3****What does Scripture say? “****Abraham believed God,*** *and it was* ***credited*** *(imputed) to him as righteousness.”* Romans 4:1-3

**KEY: Abraham's Belief, His *Faith*, That Made Him Righteous, Not His Works.**

***4****Now to the one who* ***works, wages*** *are not credited as a gift but as an obligation.****5****However, to the one who does not work but* ***trusts God who justifies the ungodly****, their faith is credited as righteousness.* Romans 4:4-5

***6David*** *says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the one to whom God credits (imputes) righteousness apart from works:* ***7****“Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.* ***8****Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord will never count (impute) against them* (Psalm 31:1-2).”Romans 4:6-8

**KEY: David's Belief, His *Faith*, That Made Him Righteous, Not His Works.**

* **…Occurs Based On BELIEF, Not A Religious Surgery.**

***9****Is this blessedness only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? We have been saying that Abraham’s faith was credited to him as righteousness.* ***10****Under what circumstances was it credited? Was it after he was circumcised, or before?* ***It was not after, but before****!****11****And he received circumcision as a sign, a* ***seal*** *of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised.* Romans 4:9-12

* **…Occurs Based On BELIEF, Not Keeping The Mosaic Law.**

***13****It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith.****14****For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless,****15****because the* ***law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.***Romans 4:13-15

***16****Therefore,* ***the promise comes by faith****, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are* ***of the law*** *but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.* Romans 4:16

***17****As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who* ***gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not****.* Romans 4:17

* **…Occurs Based On BELIEF, Not Human Effort.**

***18****Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the* ***father of many nations****, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”*Romans 4:18

***5****He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspringbe.”* ***6****Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.* Genesis 15:5-6

***19****Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead.****20****Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God,****21****being fully persuaded that* ***God had power to do what he had promised****.* Romans 4:19-21

***22****This is why “****it was credited to him as righteousness****.”****23****The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone,****24****but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.****25****He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.* Romans 4:22-25

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**POINSETTIAS**