

Romans # 067

“Debit or Credit?”

Romans 4:22-25

The doctrine of justification solely by believing God and nothing else; including changing our life, becoming moral or spiritual to be accepted by God, has always been under attack.

The problem is that in our arrogance, we can tend to judge others by thinking we've arrived by suffering or sacrifice and therefore we deserve more than they do.

The test for Abraham and us is:

Are we really going to trust God when circumstances look bad and our experience tells us we need to figure out something ourselves to meet our needs in life?

At maturity, the believer has the capacity to appreciate the Source and the variety of blessings from that Source and so, blessings from God are meaningless without capacity for them.

Therefore, the most miserable people in the world are not those with little but those with a lot with no capacity for it.

If we lose capacity, we lose enjoyment of things that God provides for us.

Love of the Blessor causes the blessed to continue to enjoy his blessings.

Capacity for life must precede blessings in life.

Capacity for life not only means there's biblical truth in the soul but also the application of that truth from your soul.

God desired to share His happiness with us, so at salvation, He gave us His very own righteousness as capacity for living grace support blessing.

Through His grace policy, God has found a way to share His happiness with man by first providing the capacity,

His imputed righteousness.

Every category of God-given righteousness provides a capacity for true happiness in time and eternity.

No one can be happy living beyond their capacity in life.

When the believer shares God's perfect happiness, His spiritual life produces the integrity and capacity to enjoy every circumstance in life, good or bad.

Abraham is the pattern for the three adjustments to God and for principle of: potential (imputed righteousness) plus capacity (biblical truth/soul) equals reality; the blessings of spiritual maturity.

Faith in Jesus Christ is instant adjustment to God the Father whose part in salvation is emphasized because He judged our sins from

His justice when Jesus was bearing them and

He raised the humanity of Christ from the dead three days later.

So, we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation but occasionally in Scripture, it's described as simply believing in God or the Father who also had something to do with salvation—He had to judge His Son.

Jesus Christ received this action of being resurrected by God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

Jesus had to be delivered over to judgment because we are sinners but He was resurrected because justification was accomplished at the cross.

God makes a promise and faith is not just expressed toward the promise but in the One who makes the promise and is able to perform it.

Faith always focuses on a promise, believing it to be true because of the One who makes the promise.

Our faith is strengthened when we believe that God's Word is more real to us than our experience.

Abraham received experiential righteousness imputed as he grew spiritually.

Jesus died because of our sins and that's why He had to go to the cross

and because our justification has been accomplished, He was raised from the dead.

Faith means we know that God can handle the situation and confidence means we trust Him even if He doesn't handle it our way.