

- Week 7 -

4:1-12

Paul is really returning to the question of circumcision – who is eligible to be saved? Have enough faith? Receive the righteousness of God?

There are some words that need to be defined:

- Justified (1)
- Righteousness (3)
- Faith (5)
- Works (6)
- Forgiven (7)

Abraham is used as a prototype of justification before God.

- He believed God (3, quoting Gen 15:6)
- He was justified *before* he was circumcised, therefore...? (11)

4:13-15

Why didn't the promise to (not *for*) Abraham come through the Law? (Another example of Paul using *law* to mean something other than Torah, or in this case *before* Torah.)

- So, then who are the promises of Abraham to?

What (or rather *who*) is Paul referring to when he says “where there is no law there is no transgression”? (14)

4:16-25

Whose authority made Abraham the father of all who have faith? (17)

Hope and faith are tightly interwoven here. How would you describe the relationship of these two things?

What was the source of Abraham's growing faith? (20)