

WHEN IN ROMANS: BELIEF BEFORE BEHAVIOR

SPEAKER: PASTOR ANDREW BULLARD

TEXT: ROMANS 4:1-11

1. We live by _____ or _____

ROMANS 4:1-3: ABRAHAM WAS, HUMANLY SPEAKING, THE FOUNDER OF OUR JEWISH NATION. **W**HAT DID HE DISCOVER ABOUT BEING MADE RIGHT WITH **G**OD? IF HIS GOOD DEEDS HAD MADE HIM ACCEPTABLE TO **G**OD, HE WOULD HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO BOAST ABOUT. **B**UT THAT WAS NOT **G**OD’S WAY. **F**OR THE **S**CRIPTURES TELL US, “**A**BRAMHAM BELIEVED **G**OD, AND **G**OD COUNTED HIM AS RIGHTEOUS BECAUSE OF HIS FAITH.”

ROMANS 4:4-5: **ROMANS 4:4-5:** **W**HEN PEOPLE WORK, THEIR WAGES ARE NOT A GIFT, BUT SOMETHING THEY HAVE EARNED. **B**UT PEOPLE ARE COUNTED AS RIGHTEOUS, NOT BECAUSE OF THEIR WORK, BUT BECAUSE OF THEIR FAITH IN **G**OD WHO FORGIVES SINNERS.

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ROMANS 4:6-8: DAVID ALSO SPOKE OF THIS WHEN HE DESCRIBED THE HAPPINESS OF THOSE WHO ARE DECLARED RIGHTEOUS WITHOUT WORKING FOR IT: “OH, WHAT JOY FOR THOSE WHOSE DISOBEDIENCE IS FORGIVEN, WHOSE SINS ARE PUT OUT OF SIGHT. YES, WHAT JOY FOR THOSE WHOSE RECORD THE LORD HAS CLEARED OF SIN.”

2. Our belief is _____ by our behavior

ROMANS 4:11: CIRCUMCISION WAS A SIGN THAT ABRAHAM ALREADY HAD FAITH AND THAT GOD HAD ALREADY ACCEPTED HIM AND DECLARED HIM TO BE RIGHTEOUS—EVEN BEFORE HE WAS CIRCUMCISED. SO ABRAHAM IS THE SPIRITUAL FATHER OF THOSE WHO HAVE FAITH BUT HAVE NOT BEEN CIRCUMCISED. THEY ARE COUNTED AS RIGHTEOUS BECAUSE OF THEIR FAITH.

**Unless otherwise noted, all scriptures are from the New Living Translation (NLT)*