

Romans Chapter 4

vs Abraham our FATHER

- The Jews were very proud to be children of Abraham...

John 8:31. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Innocence

Conscience

Human Covenant

Promise

Law

Grace

Thoughtful

Kingdom

Is

Crazy

Honored

Part of.

Leaving

Great

Things

Key?

The Jews answered him "We be Abraham's seed!"

John's, we are the children of Abraham.

This is how they identified themselves. Very unlike us. Genealogy was very important to them. They knew the tribe they were from. They know the history of their people.

I was looking at "The Magnificat" "Song of Mary"

"My Soul doth magnify the Lord, My spirit hath rejoiced in God, my Saviour."

At the end of the Song she's stated.

"He hath helped his servant Israel in remembrance of his mercy. As he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed forever."

Being the children of Abraham was always at the forefront of their thinking

Southern Paul asks "What shall we say then that Abraham our Father, as pertaining to the flesh, has found?"

It's a big deal to the Jew that listens, and to the Gentile:

Paul is reaching through the entire bible, through the prophets, the kings, the judges, through Moses, Jacob, Israel, all the way to the Father of the great nation of Israel, Abraham... and questioning what is it that he found?

What did Abraham get that you children of Abaddon hold so dear?

Paul is saying let's go to the beginning of all this and clean up a few things...

You see the Jews had things mixed up... and they still do... they were at odds with Jesus...

Jesus said "I speak that which I have seen with my Father, and ye do that which ye have seen with your father..." They answered and said unto him...
ABRAHAM is our father...

Jesus said, "If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham... Ye are of your father the devil and the lusts of your father ye will do..."

So the Jews said our Father is Abraham...
Jesus said - No your Father is the Devil...

- You talk about having things mixed up... The Jews didn't know who their Father was... Who's your daddy?
Jesus said. Your daddy is the devil...

So Paul was contending with the same problem that Jesus dealt with - mixed up Jews -

But for our purposes, mixed up Religion -
And Paul was ever so much part of that Religion
Paul was a Jew and a zealous Jew and was
once part of the mixed up Religion, but Jesus set him
straight on a road called Straight -

Isn't that what Jesus said, "Arise and go into the
street which is called Straight -" Paul got a straightening
up - and isn't what we all get when Jesus come
into our life - An old fashioned dose of the HB -
God straightened us up -

Paul was one of them in that he said, "What shall
we say then that Abraham our father -
He's not just your Father, he's mine too - I'm a child
of Abraham just as much as you are -

What is it that our Father found? How is it that we
missed it for so long? We missed it at Kadesh-Barnes
where we were turned away for 40 years to
wander in the wilderness - ^{perhaps when Paul sacrificed to Him God} Our King missed
it many years ago and we were ~~taken~~ taken away
to be strangers in a strange land. And then
our King came, He come riding on a donkey into
Jerusalem, and we missed it - He tried to tell
us what Abraham our Father found, but we said,
"Crucify him!"

And I believe we're in the same boat today!

This old country, America, is missing it. Our Father's found something many years ago that we have since lost. -- What shall we say then that our father's hath found --

- Some of you have no idea what I'm talking about. -- But some do --
- Paul knew that most Jews in his time were missing the boat. -- They had the right religion, the right book, the right father, but were on the wrong boat. --

Verse 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he hath whereof to glory, but not before God. --

If Abraham was justified by works, If he was If he was so good that he earned his justification. If he did so much good, he saved his nephew Lot, He fed the poor, he helped to Melchizedek, he did as God asked him to do. -- He provided for his family. He was moral. He loved his wife. He offered sacrifices. He did everything so good that he had every reason to feel good about himself. -- To pat himself on the back and say "Well done"

He could hold his head up high and say I did a good job. I'm a real credit to my race. I'm the cream of the crop. The pick of the litter. I deserve something for all his goodness of mine. --

Paul said If Abraham was justified by works he hath whereof to glory...
If Abraham was chosen of God because of his good nature & good reputation & good behavior, then he's got something to boast, to brag, to glory in...

~~But~~ Paul said, "but not before God..."
Don't bring that around God...

What did Abraham find? Paul says if, by works he's got whereof (noun) He found whereof to glory

And Paul is implying that if our Father Abraham, through works found whereof to glory / Then we can through works have also some of that whereof to glory...

And glory all you want, but you won't do that in the presence of God...

When (and if) we get to heaven, nobody up there is going to be shouting... I did it! I did it! I made it I made it! It will be: you did it Lord You did it. You made it possible! You LORD. It was all you...

- Declare His glory among the Heavens
- Glory and Honor are in His presence
- Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name.

There's simply no room for the glory of any other...

Psalm 12:3

The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: With ~~our~~ have said; With our tongue will WE prevail; our lips are our own: who is LORD over us?

Prov 6:16 ~~Seven things~~ These six things do the LORD hate: yea seven are an abomination unto him:

On the top of the list, God's #1 abomination that he hates: A proud look...

Pr 15:25 The LORD will destroy the house of the proud...
16:5 Everyone that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD...

James 4:6 Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud but giveth grace unto the humble...

Paul is saying, you Jews who are so proud to be the children of Abraham, what is your pride that Abraham found? Did Abraham find whereof to glory?

So, likewise we ask ourselves; What did you find? When God found you lost, undone, unrighteous, and filthy, and picked you up by his right arm... and set your feet upon a solid rock and gave you everything that you didn't deserve, did you find whereof to glory... When you get saved, what did you find about yourself to be proud of... what did you find to boast about?

If anything, for 1st time in your life you found out how horribly lost you were. You found out how selfish and wicked you really are. You found out how black, and rotten and decaying your heart really is...

~~The only~~ You found out what Paul found out, that in me, that is in my flesh dwelleth no good thing!

The Only Good thing you found was ~~that God~~ God's Love and God's mercy, God's patience and long suffering... God's grace and God's dear Son, and the blood he shed for your sin...

My friends, after I got saved I hung my head down in shame for about two weeks for God had opened my eyes...

Did I find where of glory? Nay!! Did Abraham find where of the glory?

Paul said in verse 3 → Search the scriptures. For what saith the Scriptures....?

It's important to see how Paul is drawn to the foundation of the Jews religion, the Father of the Nation of Israel Abraham himself...

~~Likewise~~
If you want to see what our country was founded on you go to the beginning, you go to the fathers & founders and study them. You study their writings, their letters, their books. And you'll understand what our forefathers of this nation feared

Foundation! When Paul asks, what did Abraham found? It would probably be more correct to say: What foundation did Abraham lay?

Did he lay the foundation of works⁺ of pride?

Well Paul said search the Scriptures. ←

The beginning
Go to Page 1

Genesis 15: 1-6

And he believed in the LORD, and he counted it to him for righteousness...

And here is the Foundation, the cornerstone,

This is what Abraham found.

This is the Foundation that Abraham laid for all his children to follow after.

And he believed in the LORD,

"

- Jesus said for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life...

- John the baptist said, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him..."

Paul said

- The word is with thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that is, the word of faith, which we preach. That if they shall confess with thy mouth the LORD Jesus, and shall believe in thine heart, that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.
- For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Can
15 vs 6 And he believed in the LORD.

~~May that he said~~ May that he said and written in heaven about everyone in this room. ... And he believed in the LORD.

Every ^{good} story begins with "Once upon a time..."
Every Christian's story begins with "And he believed in the LORD."

- What an amazing 6 words to be told of a sinner!
→ And he believed in the LORD.
- What a glorious ~~story~~ 6 words to be told of your loved ones, your children, your children's children.
... And he believed in the LORD.

What a wonderful way to end a life of sin, a life of doubt, a life of fear, a life of unbelief...
- And he believed in the LORD.

Welcome back at Abraham & the LORD.
= And he believed in the LORD and he came to him for righteousness.

It was true that God made a covenant with ~~him~~ ^{Abraham}.

It was true that God made a blood covenant with Abraham
Read vs 9, 17-18

In this, we see again the shadows of Calvary

vs 17 And it came to pass, that when the sun went
down, and it was dark, he held a smoking furnace,
and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces
of divided animals

Luke 23:44 And it was about the sixth hour, and
there was a darkness over all the earth until the
ninth hour... And sun was darkened and the veil
of the temple was rent in the midst...

I know we preach that God turned his back on his Son
not that he did, but he was making a blood covenant
with man through the darkness of Calvary...

God walk through the midst of the broken body of
his dear Son to touch man in his sinful state...

And do you know what God requires of you...?
To just believe him...

For what sake the scripture? Abraham believed God
and it was counted unto him for righteousness...

There's one thing that God's wants from you and
that is just for you to believe him...

John 9

Jesus put that clay on the blind man's eyes and made him to see... And the Pharisees questioned him & questioned him trying to find fault with Jesus.

vs 25

And blind man said... "Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not; one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see."

Proverbs

to vs 38

LORD I believe!!!

And he believed in the LORD

What Abraham our Father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found is what makes Abraham our Father as pertaining to the faith...

FATHER OBSCURE I HAD MANY SONS, AND MANY SONS HAD FATHER I AM ONE OF THEM AND SO ARE YOU

Have you believed in the LORD
Have you put your faith & trust in the LORD Jesus Christ...

Invite