

The Confidence of Faith Questions

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this week's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.

The Confidence of Faith

Series: Gospel 360

Sunday July 2, 2017

“Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.”
Romans 3:27–28 ESV

“Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, since God is one—who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.”
Romans 3:29–30 ESV

“Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.”
Romans 3:31 ESV

I. What is Faith?

1. What Faith is Not!

“What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.”
Romans 4:1–2 ESV

Suppose you were to die tonight and stand before God, and He were to say to you. “Why should I let you into my heaven? What would you say?”

Faith Equals Obedience

2. What Faith Is!

“For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.””
Romans 4:3 ESV

Faith is a Trust Transfer (Imputed Righteousness)

“Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due.”
Romans 4:4 ESV

The Transfers Happens When I am Still Ungodly

“And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,” *Romans 4:5 ESV*

**If faith equals trust in God’s promise to save,
then you are placing your faith in God and His ability.**

“just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:” *Romans 4:6 ESV*

“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”
Romans 4:7–8 ESV

II. The Reach of Faith

Everyone

“Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness.”
Romans 4:9 ESV

“How then was it counted to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised.”
Romans 4:10 ESV

“He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well,”
Romans 4:11 ESV

**A Christian is one who stops working for salvation,
not one who stops working.** (Romans, Timothy Keller)

“and to make him the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.” *Romans 4:12 ESV*

III. Confidence Builders

1. God’s Promise

“For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.”
Romans 4:13–15 ESV

2. God’s Guarantee

“That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.”

Romans 4:16- 17 ESV

3. Gives Me Hope

“In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be. He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb.”

Romans 4:18-19 ESV

4. Strengthens My Faith

“No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.”” *Romans 4:20-22 ESV*

“But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.”

Romans 4:24–25 ESV