

Old Testament Declarations Regarding Justification

Romans 4:1-12 (part 1)

Sunday, August 6, 2017

INTRODUCTION:

Four declarations from the Old Testament on justification prove that faith has always been God's unchanging way of saving unrighteous sinners.

I. OT: Justification was never through works, 4:1-8.

1. *The objection (concerning Abraham), 4:1.*

(Does Abraham actually prove justification by works?)

2. *The confirmation, 4:2-3.*

(Justification/imputation was by faith for Abraham.)

3. *The clarification, 4:4-5.*

(Justification/imputation is not God's obligation to grant.)

4. *The affirmation (from David), 4:6-8.*

(The non-imputation of sin mirrors justification/imputation apart from works.)

II. OT: Justification was never through circumcision, 4:9-12.

1. *The limitation, 4:9.*

(Was justification/imputation limited only to those circumcised?)

2. *The condition (of Abraham), 4:10.*

(Justification/imputation occurred while Abraham was uncircumcised.)

3. *The qualification, 4:11a.*

(Circumcision affirmed the primacy of justification/imputation.)

4. *The unification (under Abraham), 4:11b-12.*

(God's purpose is to unite all believers under Abraham regardless of circumcision.)