

Bible Study for February 27 – March 5, 2023

Read: Romans 4:1-17

Notes:

Abraham's being circumcised was not what saved him, rather he was saved through his response to being saved. While we are often tempted to feel our works play a role in our salvation, such an attitude detracts from God's work. Christ doesn't save us because of our works since our works are a response to what Christ has already done for us.

In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead. Today we are reminded of the promise to those who share Abraham's faith.

Questions to Ponder:

What is one laughable thing you have been promised in advertising or a political campaign?

How do such gimmicks affect your view of unbelievable promises in general? How do they affect promises made in scripture?

On what basis are we in a right relationship with God?

What was Paul's point in stressing that Abraham was right with God before being circumcised?

Who are the Biblical characters you respect as examples of great faith? What draws you to them?

Who are some Christians today that you look up to? What is most important about these persons to you? How might you become more like them?