

## Romans 4:1-25, Daily Devotions

### ☐ Monday - Have You Crossed the Line?

Romans 4:1-4

Abraham's father, Terah, was an idol worshipper in the city of Ur, in ancient Mesopotamia (Josh. 24:2). But God said to Abraham, "Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you" (Gen. 12:1). And "by faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going" (Heb. 11:8). Abraham left his family, crossed the Euphrates River, and entered the land of Canaan, and the people there called him the "Hebrew" (Gen. 14:13), *Habiru*, the man "from the other side." There was a line running across the middle of Abraham's life; in his case it was a river. On one side was Ur which represented his old life. On the other side was Canaan representing His new life of faith in the one true God. Dear reader, is there a line running across the middle of your life? Have you crossed over from your old life of unbelief to absolute trust in God? Read 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20

### ☐ Tuesday - The Just Shall Live By Faith.

Romans 4:3

Abraham (c. 2000 BC) lived five centuries before the Old Covenant was given through Moses (c. 1445 BC), and twenty centuries before the New Covenant was given through Christ. So then, on what basis was Abraham saved? "For what does the Scripture say? 'And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness'" (Rom. 4:3; cf. Gen. 15:6). From the Fall until the Final Judgment, God's plan of salvation remains the same: salvation is by grace through faith alone. And having been begun by faith, let us now, like Abraham, live by faith. Just as it is written, "The just shall live by faith" (Gal. 3:11).  
Read Colossians 2:6

### ☐ Wednesday - God's Accounting Methods.

Romans 4:5

To "reckon" is to establish by counting or calculation. God is the ultimate Accountant; He counts everything. He knows the number of stars in the universe (Psa. 147:4), the number of hairs on my head (Mt. 10:30), and the number of my days on this earth (Psa. 139:16). On a moral level, God also reckons (counts) righteousness. According to God's calculations, the number of my righteous works, before I received Christ, was zero (Isa. 64:6). But God also reckons righteousness another way: by faith in Him. For Scripture declares, "But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness" (Rom. 4:5). And again it says that righteousness "will be reckoned to those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead" (Rom. 4:24). "Without faith it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11:6), but "by it the men of old gained approval" (Heb. 11:2). Read Heb. 10:38

### ☐ Thursday - Father Abraham.

Romans 4:11

"Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness" (Rom. 4:3), "that he might be the father of all who believe" (Rom. 4:11). "Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham" (Gal. 3:7). "And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise" (Gal. 3:29). "So then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer" (Gal. 3:9). Father Abraham has many sons; I am one of them and so are you, if you believe in Jesus Christ.  
Read Romans 4:13

### ☐ Friday - The Assurance of Things Hoped For.

Romans 4:18-20

"In hope against hope [Abraham] believed ... And without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief, but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God" (Rom. 4:18-20). "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1).  
Read 2 Corinthians 5:7; Proverbs 3:5-6