



A Walk Through Romans

Salvation Is By Faith – (Rom 4)

Vertical Life Church

Introduction

- It is critical to gospel that salvation is by faith alone
- Most religions do not accept this fact
- Christians that accept this sometimes fall into the trap of works to “impress” God (Mat 7:22-23)
- Paul warns about this trap (Gal 5:4-6)

Uselessness of Working for Salvation (4:1-15)

- Not depending on personal righteousness (1-8)
 - Counting on our righteousness is futile (Psa 14:2-3)
 - The Case of Abraham (1-5)
 - Abraham believed (trusted in) God
 - God declared him righteous
 - If justification came by works then it would be payment (4-5)
 - The Case of David (6-8)
 - Paul quotes from Psa 32:1-2
 - Psalm written after David's sin with Bathsheba
 - No sacrifice for David's sin (ref Psa 51:16-17)

Working for Salvation (4:1-15)

- Not depending on personal righteousness (1-8)
- Not depending on religion (9-15)
 - Trusting in the Rights of Religion (9-12)
 - Abraham was justified before the Law (Gen 15:6; 17:10)
 - Abraham's circumcision was an affirmation and a symbol rather than a cause of his justification
 - Abraham was father of many nations, those that would be justified by faith
 - We obey God's commandments out of gratitude (Heb 12:28)
 - Trusting in the Rules of Religion (13-15)
 - Cannot combine grace and Law (Gal 5:4-6)

Trusting in God's Grace for Salvation (16-25)

- Faith and Grace Work Together (16a)
- Saving Faith is Substantial Faith (17-25)
 - Abraham believed despite obvious evidence to the contrary (17-19)
 - Abraham's belief did not waver (20)
 - Abraham was confident in the power of God (21)
 - Abraham's faith was to be our example (22-25)