

Romans 4
“Do You Reckon So?”
April 28, 2024

Rom 3:28 What are “works of the Law”? The Ten Commandments are the first of the 600 or so commandments, and these ten represent to most people what is means “to be good.”

“maintain” = Gr *logizomai* = an accounting term; several nuances; will be translated as to count; credit; consider; reckon; impute; maintain. Paul uses the word 11 times in Romans 4.

vv. 1,2 Paul is showing, to the Jew primarily, that justification (i.e., declared righteous) has always been by faith, even before the Law was given. (**James 2** states that Abraham does indeed have works to boast about, but that is before men, before whom he is declared righteous by his works.)

v. 3 See **Gen 15:6**. “*What does the Scripture say?*” is our authority on all things pertaining to salvation/justification/Christian life in general. If the Holy Spirit inspired holy men to write down His Words, then the uninspired opinions of any man or men, past or present, do not carry the weight of the Scripture.

vv. 4,5 *Believing is not a work*. You are declared righteous by God when you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior.

vv. 6-8 Abraham, who came before the Law, and David, who lived under the Law, were both saved the same way, by faith. See **Psalms 51** and **32** to read David’s experience of having his sins forgiven by faith, and not by works. God is just in not counting our sins toward us because Jesus has been made sin on our behalf. See **2 Cor 5:21**.

vv. 9-12

Abraham – uncircumcised – saved by faith, father all believers

Abraham – circumcised ~14 years later – father of Jews

Law came.

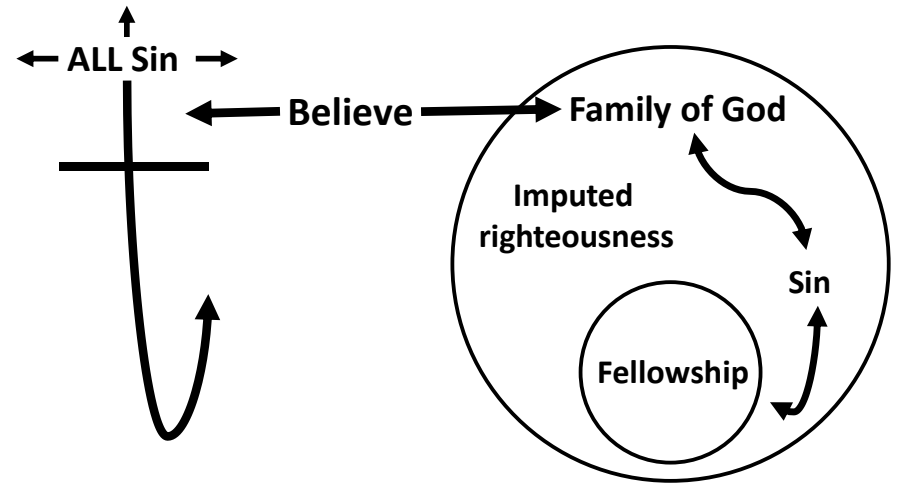
Law fulfilled and finished with Jesus Christ.

We – saved by faith – without our own versions of circumcision and law

vv. 23-25 The resurrection of Jesus proved that He had made the complete payment for our sins, that God was satisfied with the offering of His blood, and that our justification was consistent with His holiness and justice.

What does this mean for us?

- Peace with God – Romans 5:1
- Standing in grace – Romans 5:2
- Eternal life – Romans 5:20,21
- No condemnation – Romans 8:1,2
- Adoption as sons – Romans 8:15



As a believer, saved by faith, with an imputed righteousness, eternal life, and sonship by adoption, our daily life of sanctification can be lived without fear, knowing that the sin which continues to plague us is a *maturity* issue, not an *eternal destiny* issue. We now relate to God as a Father, standing in His grace, delivered from His condemnation.