

ROMANS' ROAD – Unwavering

February 10-11, 2024

Romans 4:1-3 (NIV) – “What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh discovered in this matter? If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about – but not before God. What does Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness’”.

“**credited**” = Greek *logizomai* - “to reckon, to count, to consider”

Romans 4:9-12 (NIV) – “Is this blessedness only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? We have been saying that Abraham’s faith was credited to him as righteousness. Under what circumstances was it credited? Was it after he was circumcised, or before? It was not after, but before! And he received circumcision as a sign, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. So then, he is the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them. And he is then also the father of the circumcised who not only are circumcised but who also follow in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised”.

Romans 4:16-17 (NIV) – “Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all of Abraham’s offspring – not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written, ‘I have made you a father of many nations’. He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed – the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not”.

“**grace**” = Greek *charis* – “favor or blessing”; origin of English “charity”

ROMANS' ROAD – Unwavering

February 10-11, 2024

Hebrews 11:3 (NIV) – “By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible”.

Hebrews 11:17-19 (NIV) – “By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, ‘It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned’. Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death”.

Genesis 22:10-14 (NIV) – Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Here I am”, he replied. “Do not lay a hand on the boy”, he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son”. Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided”.

Romans 4:18-24 (NIV) – “Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, ‘So shall your offspring be’. Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead – since he was about 100 years old – and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what He had promised. This is why ‘it was credited to him as righteousness’. The words ‘it was credited to him’ were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness – for us who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead”.

ROMANS' ROAD – Unwavering

February 10-11, 2024

“Sense corrects imagination, reason corrects sense, but faith corrects both. It will not be, sayeth sense; it cannot be, sayeth reason; it both can and will be, sayeth faith, for I have a promise for it” – *John Trapp*

Hebrew 10:23-25 (NIV) – “Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching”.