

Romans 4:6-8

- <sup>4</sup> Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.
- <sup>5</sup> But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,
- <sup>6</sup> just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:
- <sup>7</sup> "Blessed *are those* whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
And whose sins are covered;
- <sup>8</sup> Blessed *is the* man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.

### ***"The Blessed Person"***

Romans 4:6-8

INTRO:

What is the most blessed thing that could ever happen to you? Some folks would respond, *"The best thing that could ever happen to me is to hit the lotto when the jackpot is more than 100 million dollars."* Others who might be enduring a horrible physical trial, might reply, *"The biggest blessing that I could have right now is to have God take all of the cancer out of my body."* A third person might think the most blessed thing that could happen to him or her is a restoring of a relationship to an estranged family member. While any of these would constitute a tremendous blessing, none of them approach the greatest possible blessing that could happen to you.

King David, the king of Israel, tells us the greatest blessing anyone could have is to have our sins forgiven. While for some, having our sins forgiven might not seem like a great blessing, someday it is going to be the most important thing of all. David, the man after God's own heart knew what it was to have his sin forgiven.

***I. Why Is Our Sin Being Forgiven Important?***

***II. Why This Is Important To Paul?***

***I. Why Is Our Sin Being Forgiven Important?***

A. Remember how far we have come. The Apostle Paul unpacked in **Romans 4** his statement in **Romans 3:21, 22**

***"But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe."***

To do this the Apostle has called as a witness the father of the Jewish people according to the flesh, Abraham. He then demonstrated contrary to traditional Jewish thinking, Abraham was justified not by doing anything, but by believing God. Remember Paul quoted **Genesis 15:6** in **Romans 4:3**?

***“For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”***

B. We must not forget Paul’s vital conclusion from the evidence provided by Abraham.

**Romans 4:4-5** ***“Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,”***

C. Now Paul calls his second witness to corroborate the testimony of Abraham, David, king of Israel.

**v.6** ***“David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:”***

So, Paul, asserts that David also testified to God imputed righteousness apart from works. How does David teach that truth? He does it by stating it in a negative way.

1. There are two parts of this process of justification. Justification in its essence is God declaring us innocent of all charges brought against us. He forgave all our sins and He credited Christ’s righteousness to our account.

2. We read of this transaction in **2 Corinthians 5:21**.

***“He [God the Father] made Him [God the Son] who knew no sin to be made sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”***

So, in justification God sees us in Christ as having our sins forgiven and as having always done right.

D. What does it mean that our sins are forgiven? When we begin to think about the holiness of God, we immediately come face to face with our sinfulness. The Psalmist in **Psalms 130:3** recognizes this problem.

***“If Thou, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?”***

1. This problem is no small one. When God revealed Himself to Moses in **Exodus 34:6-7**, God demonstrated He would judge sin.

***“Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, ‘The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in loving-kindness and truth; who keeps loving-kindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations.’”***

2. Because sin is such a problem and we cannot find a solution ourselves, God provided that solution for us in the person of His Son.

**1 Peter 2:24** *“Who [Christ] Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness.”*

David told us the forgiveness of sins was not the result of anything we do. It is not a response to our good works.

## ***II. Why This Is Important To Paul?***

A. This was important to Paul because in **Psalm 32:1-2**, David wrote that forgiveness of sin was not predicated on anything he did. In fact, it is all the work of God.

1. **Verse 8** reads.

*“Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.”*

The individual in question is not blessed because of something he did. He is blessed because of something that God did for Him.

2. David continued in **Psalm 32** to describe his struggle when he would not let go of his sin. Then in **verse 5** he makes a statement which could have come from the New Testament.

*“I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,’ and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah.”*

Notice what he did not say. He did not say, when I brought my sacrifice to the tabernacle I was forgiven. Nor did he add, when I did this or said that I was forgiven. It was when David came to the LORD in faith and confessed that sin, He forgave it. Forgiveness was all by grace.

B. Are we aware of the blessing we have because our sin is forgiven and God will not impute sin to us ever again?

**Psalm 103:12** *“As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.”*

**Jeremiah 31:34** *“And they shall not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,’ declares the LORD, ‘for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.’”*

**Micah 7:19** *“You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.”*

**Psalm 130:3-4** *“If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared.”*

Have you and I been to Golgotha? Have we trusted Christ and His propitiation for our sins so we can be forgiven? Do we know the greatest blessing we could ever receive, to have our sins forgiven?

**Matthew 9:2-6** *“Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, ‘Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you.’ And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, ‘This Man blasphemes!’ But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, ‘Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Arise and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins’—then He said to the paralytic, ‘Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.’”*

**Hymn #196 There is a Fountain**