

**THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT***Christian Doctrine Compendium Series*

Sin, Justification, Sanctification, Reconciliation

**Rites Leads to Eternal Wrong (Part 2)**

Romans 4:13-17 NKJV

[9] Does this blessedness then come upon the circumcised only, or upon the uncircumcised also? For we say that faith was accounted to Abraham for righteousness. [10] How then was it accounted? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised. [11] And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also, [12] and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham had while still uncircumcised. [13] For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. [14] For if those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise made of no effect, [15] because the law brings about wrath; for where there is no law there is no transgression. [16] Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all [17] (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed-God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What does it mean to be an "heir of the world" in Romans 4:13?
2. What was the "promise" God made to Abraham in Genesis chapters 12, 13, 15 and 18?
3. What did Abraham believe?
4. What are two things the law does or brings according to Romans 4:15, Galatians 3:10, and Romans 7:7-10?
5. To what extent or degree did Abraham believe God in Romans 4:17?
6. Do you have faith like Abraham's? Why or why not?
7. How do you trust someone you don't really know?
  - a. If you trust Jesus to save you for all eternity, why do we have difficulty trusting Him in this life now?
  - b. What can help you trust Him more? List at least 4 ways.

**Reflect and Apply:** What can we learn about Abraham's faith that we can apply to our own faith in God? Will you commit to building your faith? What steps will you take to have faith like Abraham's?