







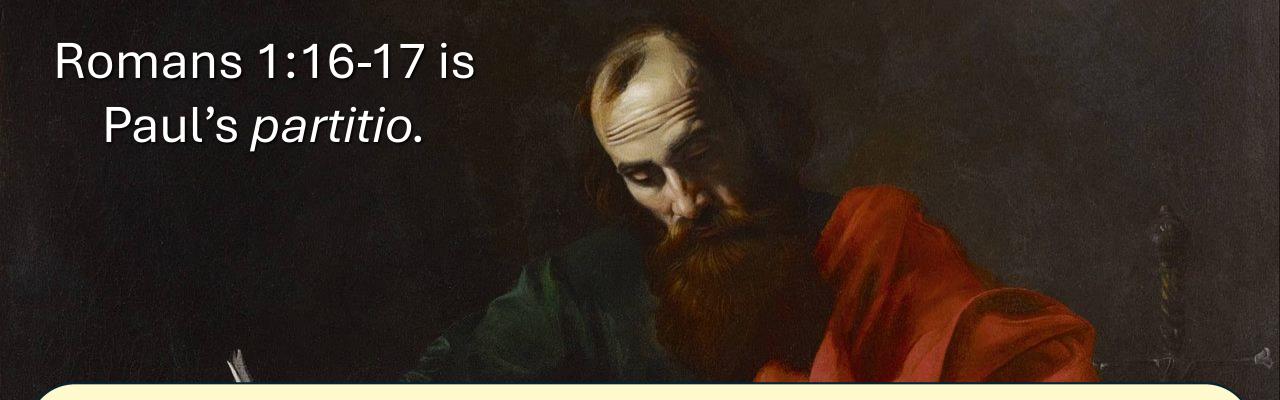
Paul "found a Jew named Aquila... recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome" (Acts 18:2)

"Since the Jews constantly made disturbances at the instigation of Chrestus, he expelled " (Seutonius, Lives of the 12 Caesars)

CLAVDIO

Putting the community back together



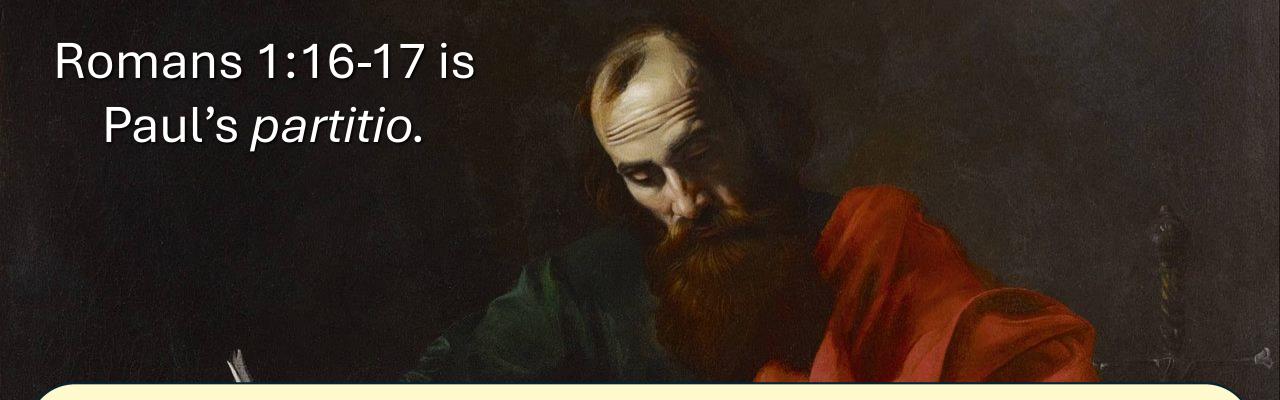


For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

The Covenant:
Justification
by Faith

The Law:
Justification by
Faith

Grace:
Justification by
Faith



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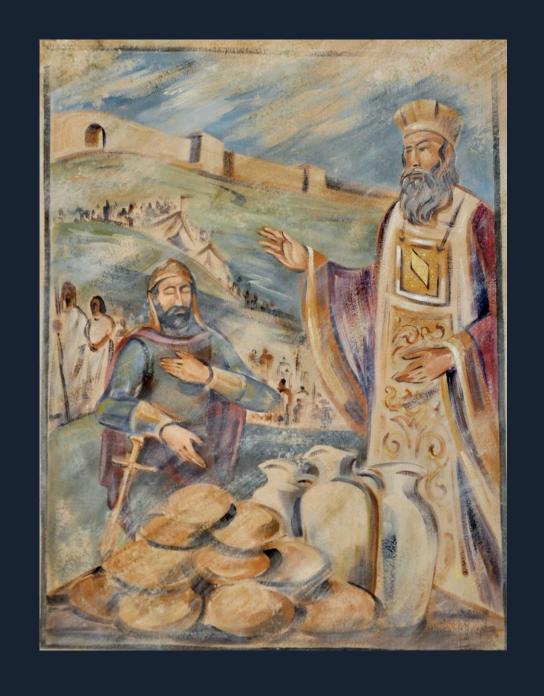
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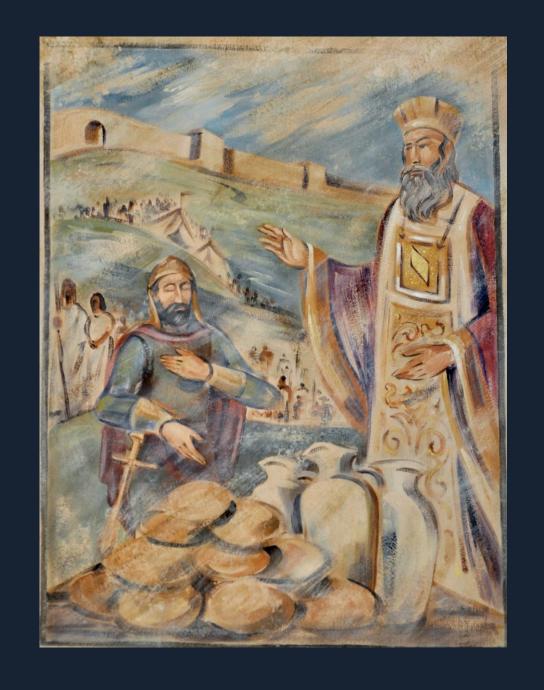
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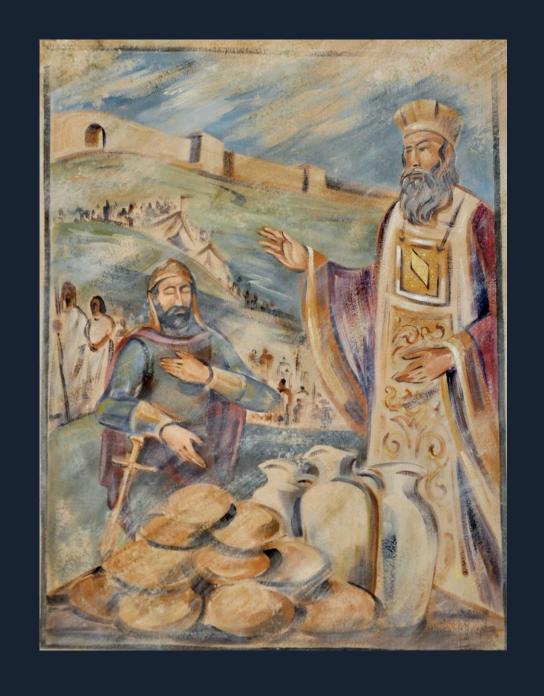
When Abram heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men. born in his house, 318 of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. (Gn. 14:14)



After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." (Gn. 15:1)



And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness. (Gn. 15:5-6)

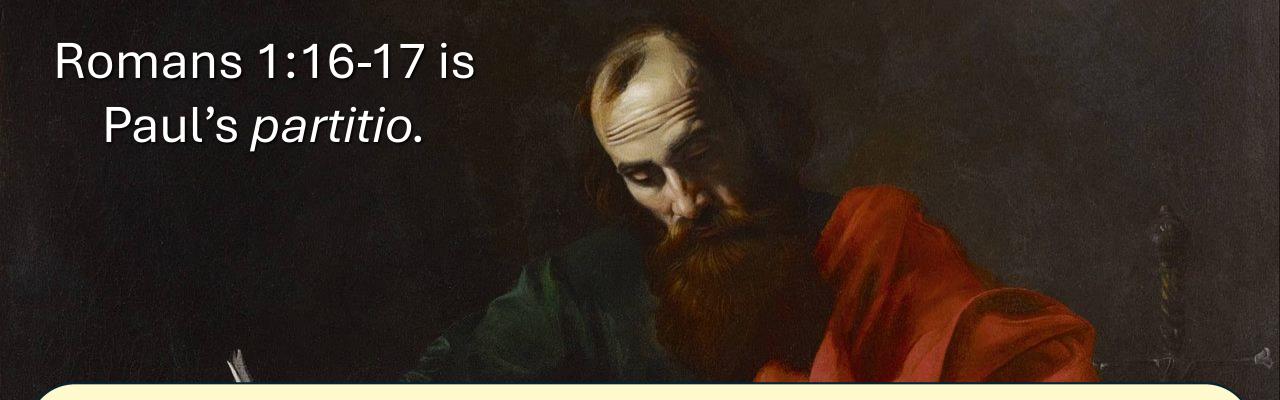


Gen. 15:6

And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

Gen. 15:6 (LXX)

καὶ <mark>ἐπίστευσεν</mark> Αβραμ τῷ θεῷ, καὶ ἐλογίσθη αὐτῷ εἰς <mark>δικαιοσύνην</mark>.



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For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness."

Rom. 4:3

τί γὰρ ἡ γραφη λέγει; ἐπίστευσεν δὲ Άβραὰμ τῷ θεῷ καὶ ἐλογίσθη αὐτῷ εἰς δικαιοσύνην.

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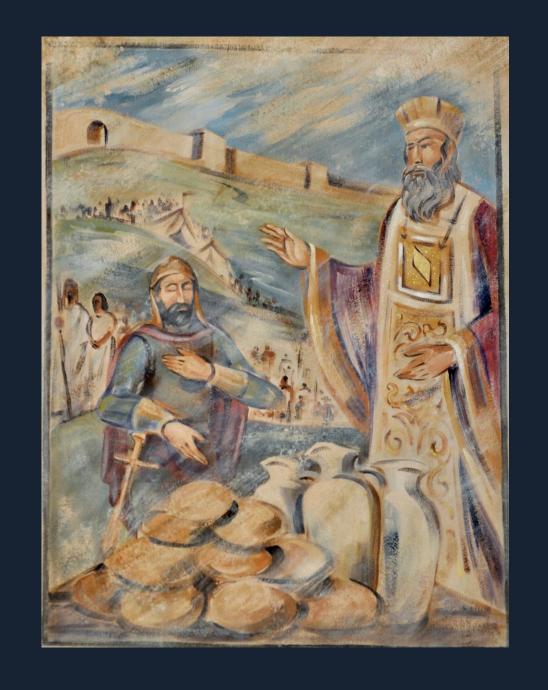
Rom. 4:3

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Some 30 years later...



You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. (Gn. 17:7)



How then was it counted to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised.

Rom. 4:10

πῶς οὖν ἐλογίσθη; ἐν περιτομῆ ὄντι ἢ ἐν ἀκροβυστίᾳ; οὐκ ἐν περιτομῆ ἀλλ' ἐν ἀκροβυστίᾳ:

He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised.

Rom. 4:11

καὶ σημεῖον έλαβεν περιτομῆς σφραγίδα τῆς δικαιοσύνης τῆς πίστεως τῆς ἐν τῆ ἀκροβυστία,

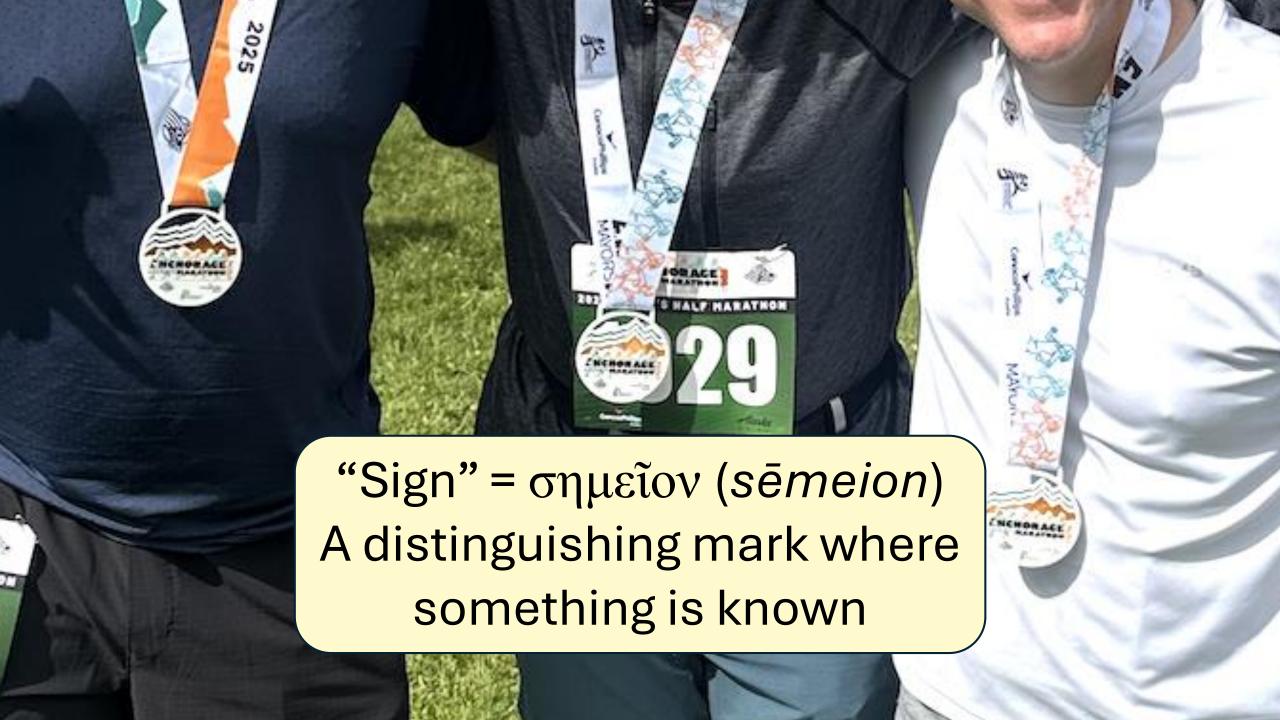
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"Sign" = $\sigma\eta\mu\epsilon\tilde{\imath}$ ov ($s\bar{e}meion$)
A distinguishing mark where something is known





Who won???



"So the last will be first, and the first will be last." (Mt. 20:16)

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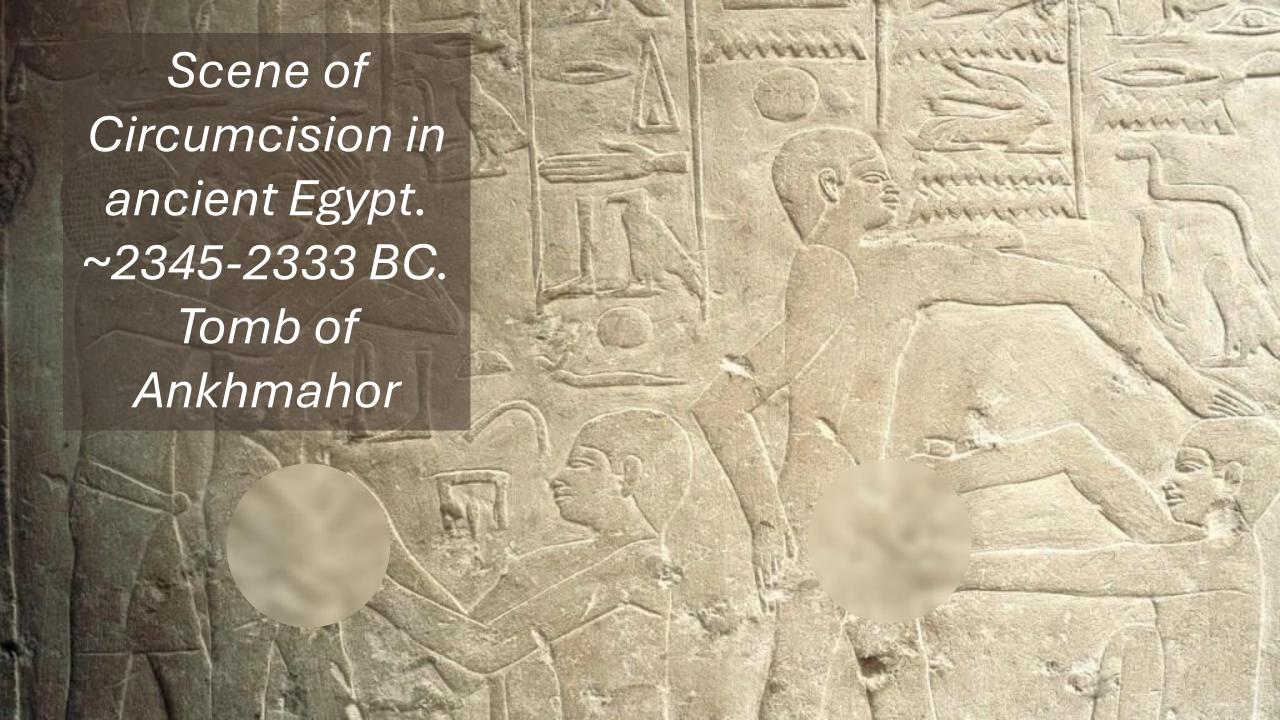
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Gen. 17:11

You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you.

Rom. 4:12

καὶ περιτμηθήσεσθε τὴν σάρκα τῆς ἀκροβυστίας ὑμῶν, καὶ ἔσται ἐν σημείῳ διαθήκης ἀνὰ μέσον ἐμοῦ καὶ ὑμῶν.



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"Seal" = σφραγίς (sphragis)

A mark of ownership;
that which confirms or authenticates

The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well,

Rom. 4:11

είς τὸ εἶναι αὐτὸν πατέρα πάντων τῶν πιστευόντων δι' ἀκροβυστίας, εἰς τὸ λογισθῆναι [καὶ] αὐτοῖς [τὴν] δικαιοσύνην,

A divine purpose behind circumcision:

to embrace the Gentiles!



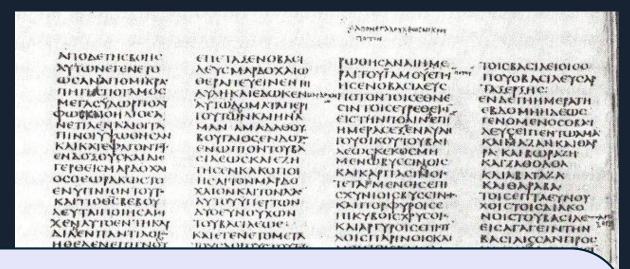
This was revolutionary

Paul's contemporaries saw circumcision as a sign of the Mosaic covenant with its emphasis on law-keeping



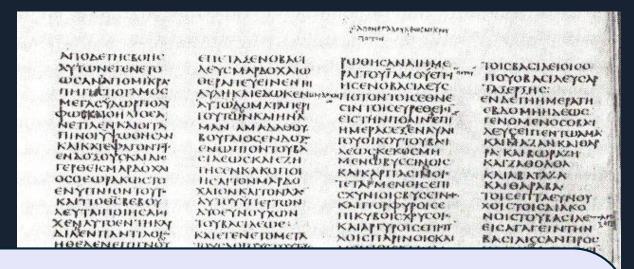
Paul's links it to the covenant of justification by faith

The Epistle of Barnabas (70-135AD)



Learn therefore, children of love, concerning all things abundantly, that Abraham, who first appointed circumcision, looked forward in the spirit unto Jesus, when he circumcised having received the ordinances of three letters. For the scripture saith:

The Epistle of Barnabas (70-135AD)



And Abraham circumcised of his household eighteen males and three hundred What then was the knowledge given unto him? Understand ye that He saith the eighteen first, and then after an interval three hundred in the eighteen I stands for ten, H for eight.

The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well,

Rom. 4:11

είς τὸ εἶναι αὐτὸν πατέρα πάντων τῶν πιστευόντων δι' ἀκροβυστίας, εἰς τὸ λογισθῆναι [καὶ] αὐτοῖς [τὴν] δικαιοσύνην,

Rom. 4:12 and to make him the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

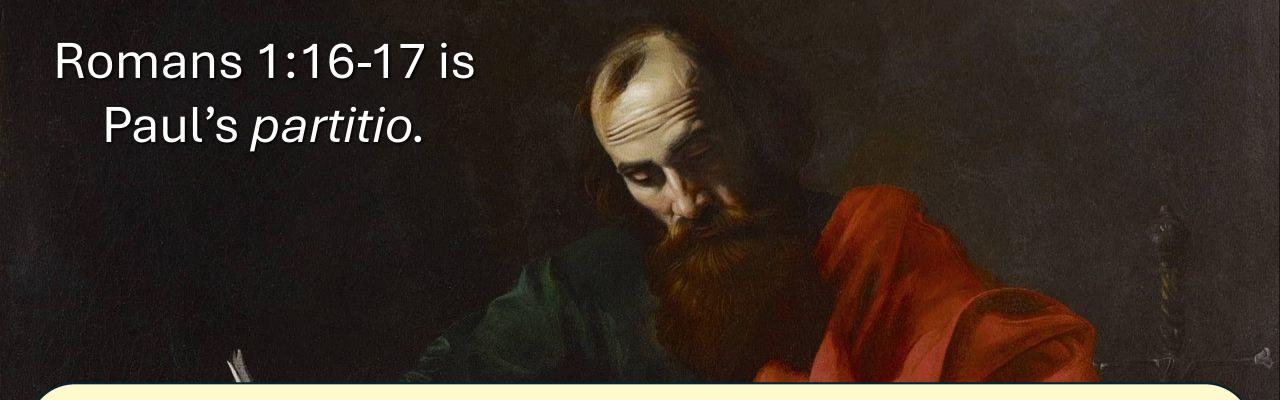
Rom. 4:12

καὶ πατέρα περιτομῆς τοῖς οὐκ ἐκ περιτομῆς μόνον άλλα καὶ τοῖς στοιχοῦσιν τοῖς ἴχνεσιν της έν ακροβυστία πίστεως τοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν Ἀβραάμ.



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For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

Rom. 4:13

Οὐ γὰρ διὰ νόμου ἡ ἐπαγγελία τῷ Ἀβραὰμ ἢ τῷ σπέρματι αὐτοῦ, τὸ κληρονόμον αὐτὸν εἶναι κόσμου, ἀλλὰ διὰ δικαιοσύνης πίστεως.

The law comes 430 years later...



For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. Rom. 4:14

εί γὰρ οἱ ἐκ νόμου κληρονόμοι, κεκένωται ἡ πίστις καὶ κατήργηται ἡ ἐπαγγελία·

Paul saw law and faith as mutually exclusive ways to God

Gal. 3:18



For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void.

Rom. 4:14

εἰ γὰρ οἱ ἐκ νόμου κληρονόμοι, κεκένωται ἡ πίστις καὶ κατήργηται ἡ ἐπαγγελία·

The "perfect" aspect of the verb emphasizes the current state of the permanent action

For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

Rom. 4:15

ό γὰρ νόμος ὀργὴν κατεργάζεται· οὖ δὲ οὐκ ἔστιν νόμος οὐδὲ παράβασις.

The role of the law is bringing wrath!



For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

Rom. 4:15

ό γὰρ νόμος ὀργὴν κατεργάζεται· οὖ δὲ οὐκ ἔστιν νόμος οὐδὲ παράβασις.

"Transgression" = π αράβασις (parabasis) Stepping over the line

That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to

Rom. 4:16

Διὰ τοῦτο ἐκ πίστεως, ἱνα κατὰ χάριν, εἰς τὸ εἶναι βεβαίαν τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν παντὶ τῷ σπέρματι, οὐ τῷ Rom. 4:16
the adherent of the law
but also to the one who
shares the faith of
Abraham, who is the
father of us all,

Rom. 4:16

έκ τοῦ νόμου μόνον ἀλλὰ καὶ τῷ ἐκ πίστεως Άβραάμ, ὅς ἐστιν πατὴρ πάντων ἡμῶν,

Grace was always God's Plan A, never a Plan B

So what is "grace"?



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For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God

Eph. 2:8

Τη γαρ χάριτί ἐστε σεσφσμένοι διὰ πίστεως καὶ τοῦτο οὐκ ἐξ ὑμῶν, θεοῦ τὸ δῶρον

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Rom. 4:17 as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Rom. 4:17

καθώς γέγραπται ὅτι πατέρα πολλῶν ἐθνῶν τέθεικα σε, κατέναντι οδ έπίστευσεν θεού τοῦ ζωοποιοῦντος τούς νεκρούς καὶ καλοῦντος τὰ μὴ ὄντα ὡς ὄντα.

In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be."

Rom. 4:18

"Ός παρ' ἐλπίδα ἐπ' ἐλπίδι ἐπίστευσεν εἰς τὸ γενέσθαι αὐτὸν πατέρα πολλῶν ἐθνῶν κατὰ τὸ εἰρημένον" οὕτως ἔσται τὸ σπέρμα σου,

He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.

Rom. 4:19

καὶ μὴ ἀσθενήσας τῆ πίστει κατενόησεν τὸ έαυτου σῶμα [ἤδη] νενεκρωμένον, έκατονταετής που ύπάρχων, καὶ τὴν νέκρωσιν τῆς μήτρας

No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,

Rom. 4:20

είς δὲ τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν τοῦ θεου οὐ διεκρίθη τῃ ἀπιστία ἀλλ' ἐνεδυναμώθη τῃ πίστει, δοὺς δόξαν τῷ θεῷ

Rom. 4:21
fully convinced that
God was able to do
what he had promised.

Rom. 4:21

καὶ πληροφορηθεὶς ὅτι ὃ ἐπήγγελται δυνατός ἐστιν καὶ ποιῆσαι.

Rom. 4:22
That is why his faith
was "counted to him as
righteousness."

Rom. 4:22 διὸ [καὶ] ἐλογίσθη αὐτῷ εἰς δικαιοσύνην.

But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone,

Rom. 4:23

Οὐκ ἐγράφη δὲ δι' αὐτὸν μόνον ὅτι ἐλογίσθη αὐτῷ

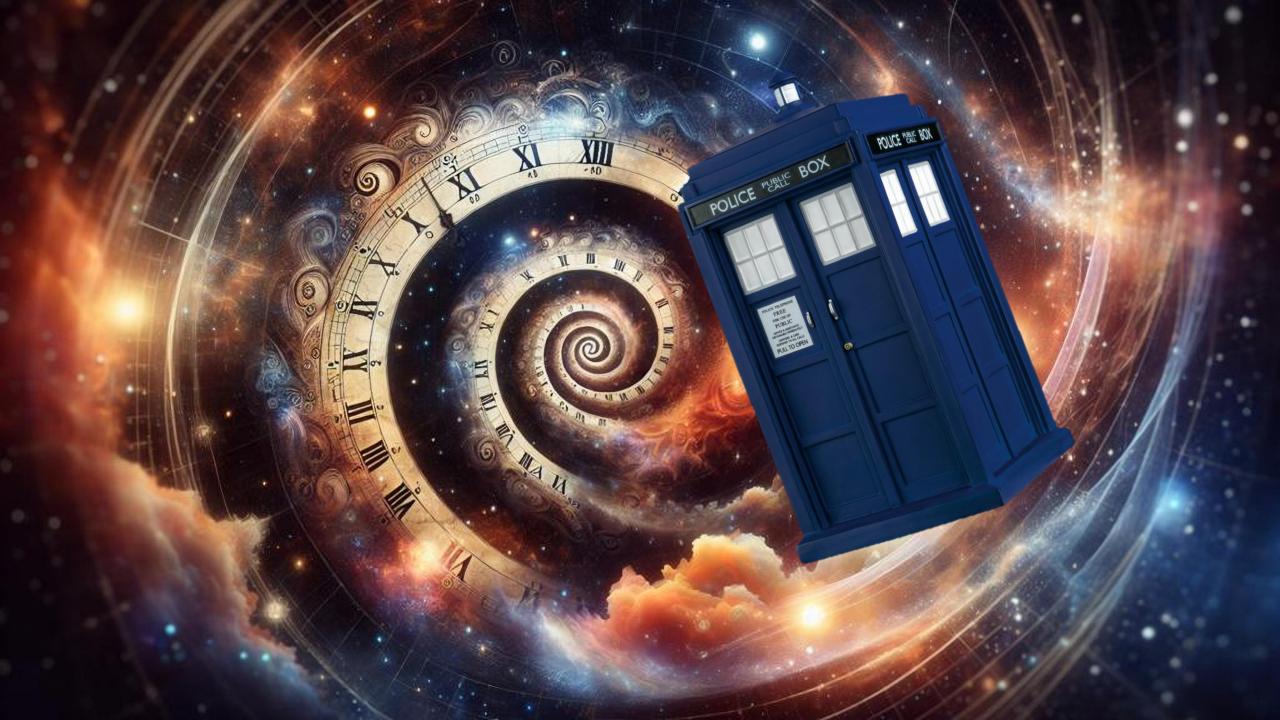
but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, Rom. 4:24

άλλα καὶ δι' ἡμᾶς, οἷς μέλλει λογίζεσθαι, τοῖς πιστεύουσιν ἐπὶ τὸν ἐγείραντα Ἰησοῦν τὸν κύριον ἡμῶν ἐκ νεκρῶν,

Rom. 4:25 who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

Rom. 4:25

ος παρεδόθη διὰ τὰ παραπτώματα ἡμῶν καὶ ἠγέρθη διὰ τὴν <mark>δικαίωσιν</mark> ἡμῶν.



Points for Home



We are God's Plan A!



