

Wherefore Then Serveth the Law (Gal 3:19)? – Part 2

Paul's book to the Romans is a book of distinctions. The theme centering these distinctions is the distinction of all distinctions made and is found in Romans 3:29-30.

Romans 3:29-30 (KJB) *Is he* the God of the Jews only? *is he* not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also: **30** Seeing *it is* one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

Scriptural discernment between justification 'by faith' and 'through faith' is key in dissolving a majority of controversial issues in the bible.

WARNING: The NIV (New International Version) completely destroys the narrative on this essential doctrine found in the book of Romans as presented in a King James Bible. In fact, it can lead to wrong deductions concerning the doctrine of justification for today.

Romans 3:29-30 (NIV) Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, **30** since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith.

Paul is demonstrating a difference in means and method as to how God has chosen to justify the Gentile from that of the Jew. The NIV declares that there is no difference.... 'and the uncircumcised through that same faith.' Heresy!

The characteristics of 'by faith' and 'through faith', as used in a King James Bible, are found in Hebrews chapter 11. Verses 1-11 will be sufficient to demonstrate the difference between the two.

Hebrews 11:1-11 (KJB) Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. **2** For by it the elders obtained a good report. **3** Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. **4** By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh. **5** By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. **6** But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. **7** By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. **8** By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. **9** By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as *in* a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: **10** For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God. **11** Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

Verse 6 is a common denominator to both 'by faith' and 'through faith'... "But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Notice carefully how 'by faith' is tied together with the obedience and testimonies of Abel (vs 4), Enoch (vs 5), Noah (vs 7) and Abraham (vs 8).

Now notice that when the expression 'through faith' is used that it is not in connection with obeying something, but in simply accepting or believing something (vv 3 & 11).

In a KJB, 'by faith' = A believing diligence (faithfulness) towards a faithful God of reward.

In a KJB, 'through faith' is believing (trusted/trusting) a faithful God for a reward promised.

Let's now apply this to Romans 3:29-30. God shall justify the circumcision 'by faith', meaning that there is a believing diligence (faithfulness) towards a faithful God of reward involved. God justifying the uncircumcision 'through faith', means that righteousness is to be imputed simply in believing a faithful God of reward for something promised... "...because she judged him faithful who had promised."

Let's prove this!

God created man to have a 'by faith' relationship to Himself. How did that work out? "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners..." **Romans 5:19** In fact, mankind's rapport is 99% built on a 'by faith' relationship one to another. This applies to friendships, family, employer/employee relationships on down to the person we meet on the street or behind a cash register. There is a trust-trust factor that comes into play within all relationships and reward out of any relationship is based on faithfulness. Consequences come into play when that trust is broken.

After Adam and Eve ate themselves out of paradise, through an act of disobedience, God set up a path of righteousness based on faithful obedience... "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh." **Hebrews 11:4**

Around two thousand years after creation, the human nature continued to reel its ugly head when God had enough... "And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually. **6** And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart." **Genesis 6:5-6**

God sets out to destroy man whom he created, along with all living things, but for one exception... "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD." **Genesis 6:8** This point MUST NOT BE MISSED! Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD... why? "These *are* the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God." **Genesis 6:9** "And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation." **Genesis 7:1** "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." **Hebrews 11:7**

Old Testament justification is grossly misrepresented in most commentary and reason being is ignorance regarding the means and method in which God justified man under a 'by faith' relationship. Under the Old Testament, a just man was one who was righteous before the LORD. Imputed righteousness was based on faithful obedience.

This second post will end in comparison with another group of people in which 'grace' is applied, but in an exact opposite scenario. In Ephesians, Paul the apostle to Gentiles, addresses converted uncovenanted Gentiles who once was discriminated against in the giving of the Mosaic Covenant to the nation of Israel and finding themselves in the crosshairs of that nation when entering into their promised land. These Ephesian Gentiles were representative of the nations in which God gave up and then over to a reprobate mind as described by Paul in Roman's 1:18-32.

Ephesians 2:1-2 And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins; **2** Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: **Ephesians 2:8-9** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: **9** Not of works, lest any man should boast. **Ephesians 3:1-2** For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, **2** If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward:

It is my guess that those reading this post and professing the Lord Jesus Christ as personal saviour, would confess that the 'grace' applied in your life wasn't based on testimony such as Noah... that you were just and perfect in your generation, walking with God by faith and seen righteous? I bet, as with me, that there would be an identification with those converted uncovenanted Gentiles saved by grace, through faith and without works?

Being justified 'by faith' or 'through faith' is the difference between night and day!

My third post will pick up with Abraham who is said to be father of both the Jew and Gentile as labeled in Romans chapter 4:9-16.

2 Timothy 2:15 "Study...!"