



Raised for our Justification

Romans 4:23-25

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The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the confirmation that His death on the cross was sufficient to take the penalty for sinners. The finished work of Jesus Christ means we cannot earn God's approval by our own efforts, but must put our faith entirely in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Most people see man's relationship to God as being based on either working or believing.

Those who are **working** for salvation believe that it must be earned through good works.

Believing in God for salvation means total dependence on the promises of God and the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The clash between working and believing finds its ultimate resolution in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Abraham lived about 2,000 years before Jesus Christ came to earth. He was regarded as the heroic patriarch of the Jewish people.

Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness. He believed that God would fulfill a promise for something that would otherwise be impossible.

Abraham believed in the life-giving, resurrection power of God.

You are also called to believe in the life-giving, resurrection power of God.

Jesus Christ was delivered over for our sins.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ assures the justification of believers. It vindicates His suffering and death, and demonstrates that the price He paid on the cross was sufficient for our sins.

Questions to Consider

1. In what ways do major world religions display the clash between working and believing as the means to being made right with God?
2. On what basis did Abraham receive God's approval (His declaration of righteousness)?
3. What does Romans 4:23 mean when it says the words God spoke to Abraham "were not written for his sake alone"?
4. In what ways did Abraham show faith in the resurrection power of God?
5. What is the heart of the gospel, based on Romans 4:24-25?
6. What is *justification*?
7. What does the resurrection of Jesus Christ accomplish for the salvation of sinners?