

## I. Introduction

### A. How has Paul demonstrated the universal need of the gospel?

### B. How has Paul shown the gospel is consistent with the Old Testament?

## II. Main Argument

### A. Condition of the Covenant (vv. 13-16)

1. Faith (v. 13): how does Paul correct the understanding of the Jewish rabbis regarding the promise to Abraham?
2. Legal Trouble (v. 14): what would happen to a promise that is conditioned on obedience and conformity to the Law?
3. Law & Grace Contrasted (vv. 15-16)
  - a. What does the Law bring?
  - b. What is the object of faith (i.e. what is it faith *in*)?
  - c. How is a promise conditioned on faith able to benefit all sorts of people?
4. Application: *The danger of striving for righteousness by means of works*

### B. Object of Faith (vv. 17-18)

1. Promise (v. 17a): what did God pledge to give Abraham?
2. Power (v. 17b):
  - a. What is faith?
  - b. What two examples of God's power does Paul give?
  - c. Application: *God's Salvation Accomplishes the Impossible*

3. Hopeless yet Hope (v. 18): how does Paul use the word *hope* differently here?

### C. Audacity of the Covenant (vv. 19-20)

1. Reality (v. 19): what did faith not lead Abraham to do?
2. Glory (v. 20): in what sense did Abraham not waver?
  - a. How does Abraham giving glory to God complete Paul's thought of 4:2?
  - b. How does this separate Abraham from the rest of mankind (cf. 1:21)

### D. Power of God (vv. 21-22)

1. Full Conviction: what did Abraham lack?
2. Righteous by Faith (v. 22): why was this sort of faith counted as righteousness?
3. Application: *Faith honors God!*

### E. Salvation of God (vv. 23-25)

1. Pattern (vv. 23-24): How is Abraham's salvation by faith relevant to us?
2. Complete Salvation (v. 25): in what sense is the comprehensive nature of God's salvation highlighted here?

1. <sup>1</sup>What bless-ed-ness be-longs to him Who has for-giv-en been,  
 2. <sup>3</sup>I lan-guished, si-lent in my guilt; My days were filled with groans.  
 3. Then You re-leased me from my sin, And took its guilt a-way.

For whom trans-gres-sions have been cleared, And cov-ered is his sin.  
<sup>4</sup>On me Your hand pressed day and night, And heat dried up my bones.  
<sup>6</sup>And there-fore while You may be found, Let all the god-ly pray.

<sup>2</sup>Blessed is the one for whom the LORD Counts no in-iq-uity,  
<sup>5</sup>My sin I then con-fessed to You, Not hid-ing guilt-i-ness;  
 They'll not be harmed by ris-ing floods. <sup>7</sup>In You I hide in peace;

And in whose spir-it is no taint Of in-sin-cer-i-ty.  
 I said, "I will be-fore the LORD Trans-gres-sions now con-fess."  
 You keep me safe, sur-round-ing me With songs of my re-lease.

**THE LORD'S DAY EVENING**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**DECEMBER 26, 2021 | 6:00 p.m.**

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*THE HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 227 .."On Christmas Night All Christians Sing"**

**\*THE INVOCATION**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING .....Isaiah 8**

**THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & ADORATION**

**THE HYMN SING**

**\*THE PSALM OF PREPARATION NO. 32....."What Blessedness"**

**THE SCRIPTURE READING .....Romans 4:13-25**

**THE SERMON.....Rev. Ryan Biese**  
**Eternal Grace | Paul's Epistle to the Romans | No. 12**  
**"By Faith"**

**\*THE HYMN OF COMMITMENT NO.499 ..... "Rock of Ages"**

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

**\*THE RESPONSE .....Psalm 72:18-19**

Now Blessed be the Lord Our God, the God of Israel.  
 For He alone does wondrous works in glory that excel.  
 And blessed be His glorious Name to all eternity.  
 The whole Earth let His glory fill; amen, so let it be.