

Looking into Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome

EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE ROMANS

5. The Faith of Abraham



**Memory
1**

Romans 1:16-17

ESV:


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 to faith, as it is written,
“The righteous shall live by faith.”

NKJV:

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ,
for it is the power of God to salvation
for everyone who believes,
for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

For in it the righteousness of God is revealed
from faith to faith; as it is written,
“The just shall live by faith.”



**Memory
2**

Romans 1:18-19


ESV:

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

NKJV:

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.



**Memory
3**

Romans 2:1

ESV:

Therefore you have no excuse, O man,
every one of you who judges.
For in passing judgment on another
you condemn yourself,
because you, the judge,
practice the very same things.

NKJV:

Therefore you are inexcusable, O man,
whoever you are who judge,
for in whatever you judge another
you condemn yourself;
for you who judge
practice the same things.



Romans 3:21-24

ESV:

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...

NKJV:

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.

For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...

Paul's letter to the Romans

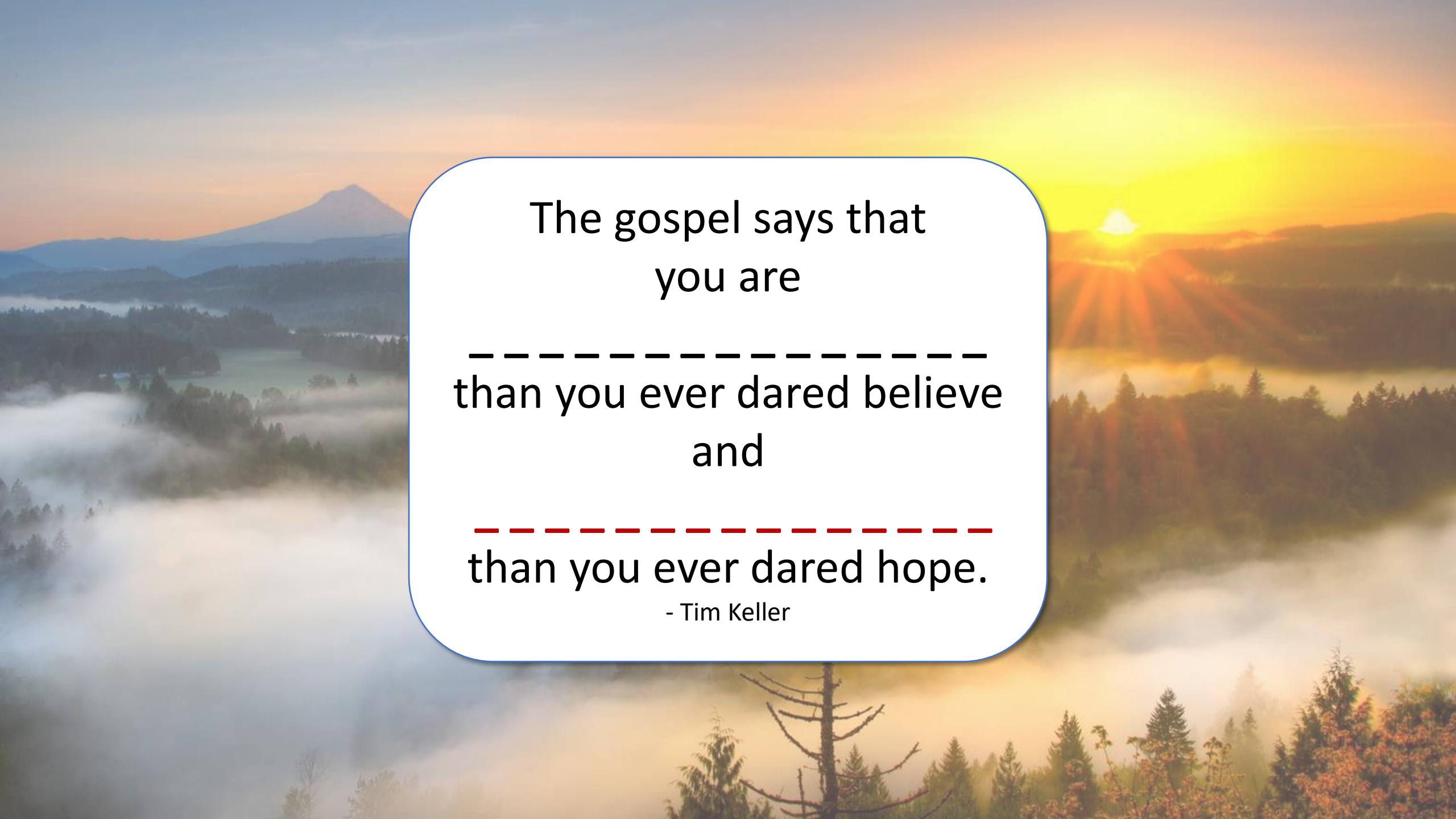
Chapter	Content
1	Introduction, theme, God's wrath and our sinfulness
2	
3	How the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ enable sinners to be justified before God through faith
4	
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9	Israel's part in God's plan
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12	How then should a Christian live?
13	
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16	Greetings to the saints

Romans 4

Chapter	Content
1	Introduction, theme, God's wrath and our sinfulness
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Chapter	Verses	Content
4	1 - 8	Abraham was not justified by his works
	9 - 12	The sign of circumcision
	13 - 25	Abraham's triumphant faith




The gospel says that
you are

than you ever dared believe
and

than you ever dared hope.

- Tim Keller



The gospel says that
you are
more sinful and flawed
than you ever dared believe
and
more accepted and loved
than you ever dared hope.

- Tim Keller

Know the meaning: **Justification**

Imagine a man on trial for a crime he committed.

The evidence shows that he is guilty and he confess to having committed the crime.

The law rightly condemns him as guilty.

But when the judge comes to sentence him, he says that the guilty criminal **is innocent and free to go!**

This is the meaning of **justification** in this letter.

It is a **legal term** – a **declaration** that God no longer condemns the sinner but **now sees him as righteous.**

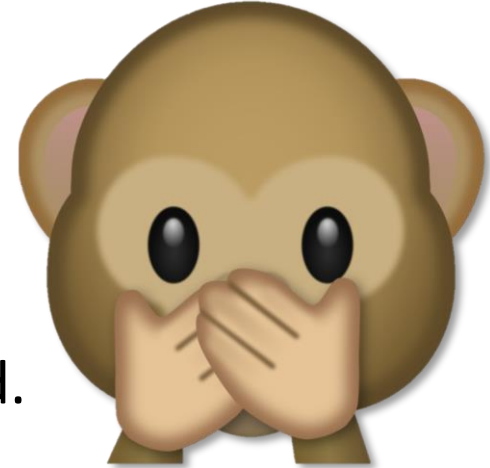
Just as if
he had never
done wrong!



Now we know that whatever the law says
it speaks to those who are under the law,
so that every mouth may be stopped,
and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

For by works of the law no human being
will be **justified** in His sight, since
through the law comes knowledge of sin.

(Romans 3:19-20)



**For we hold that one is justified by faith
apart from works of the law.**

Romans 4

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Abraham,
the friend of God

If Abraham was **justified by works**,
he has something to boast about,
but not before God.

For what does the Scripture say?

***“Abraham believed God,
and it was counted to him
as righteousness.”***

(Romans 4:2-3)

Genesis 15:6

Chapter	Verses	Content
4	1 - 8	Abraham was not justified by his works
	9 - 12	The sign of circumcision
	13 - 25	Abraham's triumphant faith



To the one who does not work
but **believes in Him** who **justifies** the ungodly,
his faith is counted as **righteousness**...

(Romans 4:5)



Chapter	Verses	Content
4	1 - 8	Abraham was not justified by his works
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This is unearned
and undeserved
righteousness!

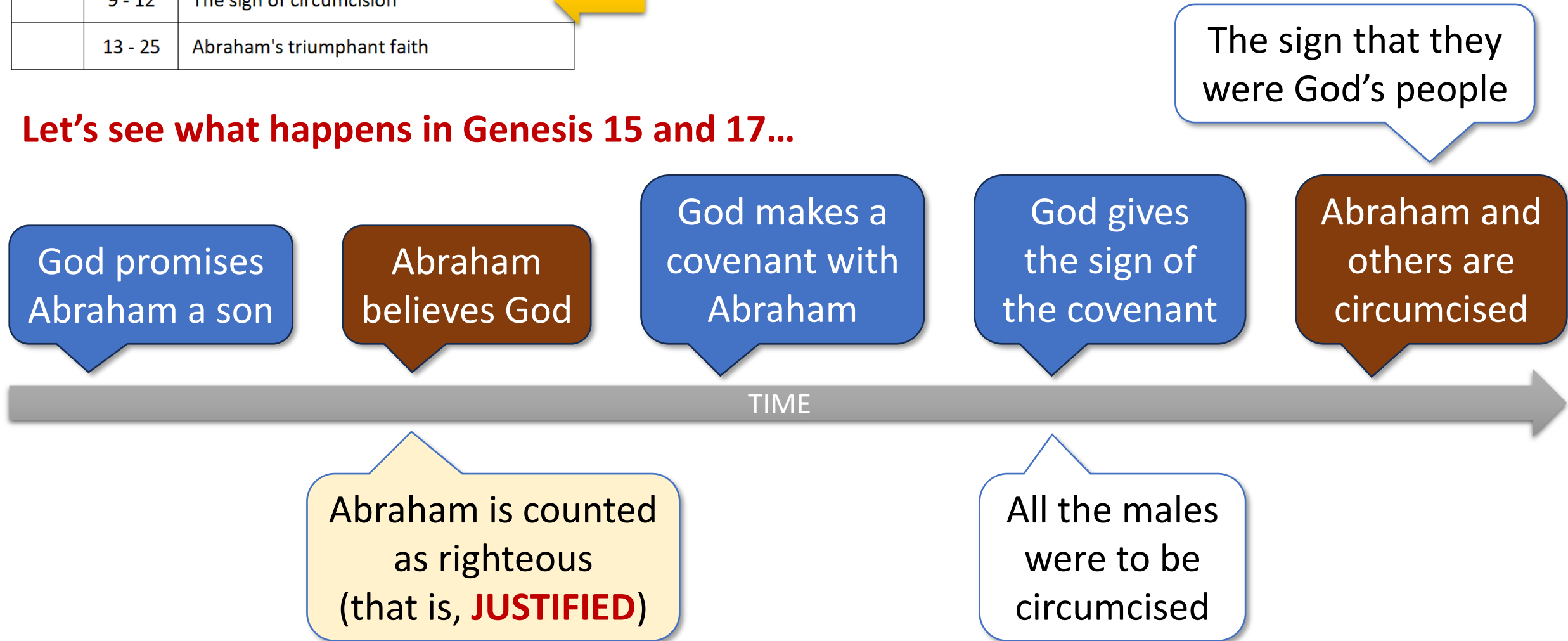
*Blessed is the one
whose transgression is **forgiven**,
whose sin is **covered**;
Blessed is the man
against whom the Lord **counts no iniquity**...*

(Psalm 32:1-2)

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Let's see what happens in Genesis 15 and 17...



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

Gentiles (us) { 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,

Jews { 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.

(Romans 4:11-12)

Chapter	Verses	Content
4	1 - 8	Abraham was not justified by his works
	9 - 12	The sign of circumcision
	13 - 25	Abraham's triumphant faith



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**. ...

For **the law brings wrath**...

(See Romans 4:13-15)

By the law is the knowledge of sin.
(Romans 3:20)

In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.
(Genesis 12:3)

Chapter	Verses	Content
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That is why it depends on **faith**,


in order that the promise may rest on **grace**

and be **guaranteed** to all his offspring...

(Romans 4:16)



Chapter	Verses	Content
4	1 - 8	Abraham was not justified by his works
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Abraham's faith:

In hope **he believed against hope**,

He **did not weaken in faith** when he considered his own body...
or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.

No unbelief made him waver concerning **the promise of God**,

but **he grew strong in his faith** as he gave glory to God,

fully convinced that God was able to do **what He had promised**.

That is why his faith was *“counted to him as righteousness.”*

(Romans 4:17-22)

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That is why his faith was “*counted to him as righteousness.*”

But the words “*it was counted to him*” were not written for his sake alone, **but for ours also.**

It will be counted **to us who believe** in Him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was **delivered up** for our trespasses and **raised** for our **justification.**

(Romans 4:22-25)





Psalm 32:1-2

ESV:

Blessed is the one whose
transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man against whom
the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

NKJV:

Blessed is he whose
transgression is forgiven,
Whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man to whom
the LORD does not impute iniquity,
And in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Next: Romans 5

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Chapter	Verses	Content
5	1 - 5	Peace with God
	6 - 11	The love of God in Christ
	12 - 21	Sin and salvation - Christ and Adam