**Discovering Growth**

**Justification from Romans Chapter Four**

**How Abraham Was Justified**

*If we are to understand Justification we must understand its Biblical definition. Justification is legal term which is being in right standing. One is justified by being brought into a legal union with Christ.*

*The Dilemma*

* *There is a judgment that must take place if there is an act of sin committed and there can be no righteous judgment if that judge aquits the unrighteous, that would cause the judge to be unrighteous as well*

*The Solution*

* *What we are going to study today is that in the NT justification is God’s declarative act by which He pronounces believers as righteous because of the atoning work of Jesus Christ’s death which fulfilled all of the requirements of the law. There was still judgment given, but someone paid the price, and we take on or are imputed to that right standing because of faith in that work in which we act on that faith by being born again. Born again signifies there still is a death that we take part in so that blood can be applied to us and that is the death by repenting and being baptized in Jesus name and receiving His Spirit.*

**OUTLINE**

**I. JUSTIFICATION OF ABRAHAM AS AN EXAMPLE (1-8)**

 **A. HOW ABRAHAM WAS JUSTIFIED (1-5)**

 **B. THE TESTIMONY OF DAVID (6-8)**

**II. RIGHTEOUSNESS BY FAITH AVAILABLE TO ALL BELIEVERS (9-25)**

 **A. BECAUSE ABRAHAM WAS JUSTIFIED BEFORE CIRCUMCISION (9-12)**

 1. His faith was counted for righteousness before he was

 circumcised (**9-10**)

 2. Circumcision was a seal of the righteousness he had while

 uncircumcised (**11a**)

 3. Thus he became the father of all who have the same kind of

 faith, both circumcised and uncircumcised (**11b-12**)

 **B. BECAUSE THE PROMISE TO ABRAHAM WAS GRANTED THROUGH FAITH (13-25)**

 1. The promise to be the heir of the world given in view of his

 faith (**13**)

 2. It was not given through law (**14-15**)

 3. But in light of faith, according to grace, to assure that all

 who are of the same faith as Abraham might be heirs of the

 promise (**16-17**)

 4. The kind of obedient faith illustrated by Abraham (**18-22**)

 5. Abraham's justification by faith assures that we who believe

 in Him who raised Jesus from the dead shall find justification

 (**23-25**)

**impute** - "to reckon, take into account, or, metaphorically, to put down

 to a person's account"

**righteousness** - as used in this chapter, the idea seems to be akin that

 of "justification", where one is declared "not guilty"

 (see [**Romans 4:5-8**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Romans%204.5-8))