

SERMON NOTES

Date: February 28, 2016

Title: Justification by Divine Accomplishment, Not Human Achievement

Text: Romans 4:18-25

Big Idea: By following in the footsteps of Abraham's faith we can discover how we can truly become righteous in God's sight.

I. Introduction

II. Four Characteristics of God-Given Faith

A. God-Given Faith Looks to the Person of God

B. God-Given Faith Hopes in the Promises of God

C. God-Given Faith Endures by the Power of God

D. God-Given Faith Grows for the Glory of God

III. Conclusion

1. Describe the difference between the way the world and the Bible defines faith.
2. A.W. Tozer said, "Faith in faith is faith astray." What did he mean and why does it matter?
3. Why was Abraham able to have hope that went beyond all human hope (vs. 18)? How is having a hope that goes beyond all human hope of particular encouragement or comfort to you today?
4. Choose at least one trial you're currently facing. Now list a few of God's promises that give you hope in the midst of that trial. (Caution: be careful not to take a promise out of context).
5. Why didn't Abraham's faith weaken (v. 19) or waver (v. 20)? What had him convinced (v. 21)?
6. Is there anything in your life that weakens your faith or causes it to waver? In what ways are you tempted to doubt God's promises or character?
7. How does God's promise in verses 24-25 encourage you?