



What Does the Scripture Say?

Romans 4:1-8

How was Abraham justified?

Romans 4:1-4 (ch 3:21)

- 1 What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has *something* to boast about, but not before God.
- 3 For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” (Genesis 15:6)
4 Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.

What does David say?

- ⁵ But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, ⁶ just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:
- ⁷ “Blessed *are those* whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered; ⁸ Blessed *is the* man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.”

Scripture/Scripture

- “Scripture/scriptures” (52 times in NT)
 - 1 time (2 Tim 3:15 – holy scriptures) “grammata”
 - 51 times (scripture or scriptures) “graphe”
- Singular 30 t “the scripture” (Romans 4:3)
- Plural 20 t “the scriptures” (John 5:39)
- General 1 t “the place in the scripture” (Acts 8:32)

“Scriptures” (refers to OT)

- Jesus often cited the scriptures
 - Matt 21:42 Have you never read in the scriptures .. The stone the builders rejected has become the head of the corner
- The apostles refer to “all scripture”
 - 1 Tim 5:18 the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle ox while it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer *is* worthy of his wages.”
 - 2 Peter 3:16 our beloved brother Paul.. The untaught twist to their own destruction as they do to the rest of the scriptures

“Scriptures” (an inspired writing)

- “It is written” (i.e. scripture) 82 t in NT
 - Exod 32:15 tables of stone written by God
 - Deut 28-30 as written in the book of the law of Moses
 - Romans 4:13 as it is written (it stands written)
- “The word of the Lord”.. “God has spoken” (Heb 1:1-2)
- “All scripture is given by inspiration of God” (2 Tim 3:16)

Inspired writing vs uninspired

- Paul cited contemporary works
 - Acts 17:28 as your own poets, ‘For we are also His offspring.’
 - 1 Cor 15:33 “evil companionships corrupt good morals”
 - Titus 1:12 “Cretans *are* always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.”
- The Apocryphal books (contained in Septuagint)
 - NT writers quote OT scriptures 295 times
 - Not one direct citation from any Apocrypha

The Essence of Scripture

- As Respected by Jesus and apostles
 - Matt 22:29-31 You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God...have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, ³² 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."
 - Acts 17:3 Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures,
- Scripture says = God says Romans 9:17 (Exodus 9:13-16)



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