

**Genesis 12: 1 -3**

# Your efforts or God's gift?

What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered in this matter? If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about--but not before God. What does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." **Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation.** However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.

To the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, **his faith is credited as righteousness.**



**Are you  
'in credit'  
?**

# Eli “credited” Hannah as drunk!

1 Samuel 1: 13

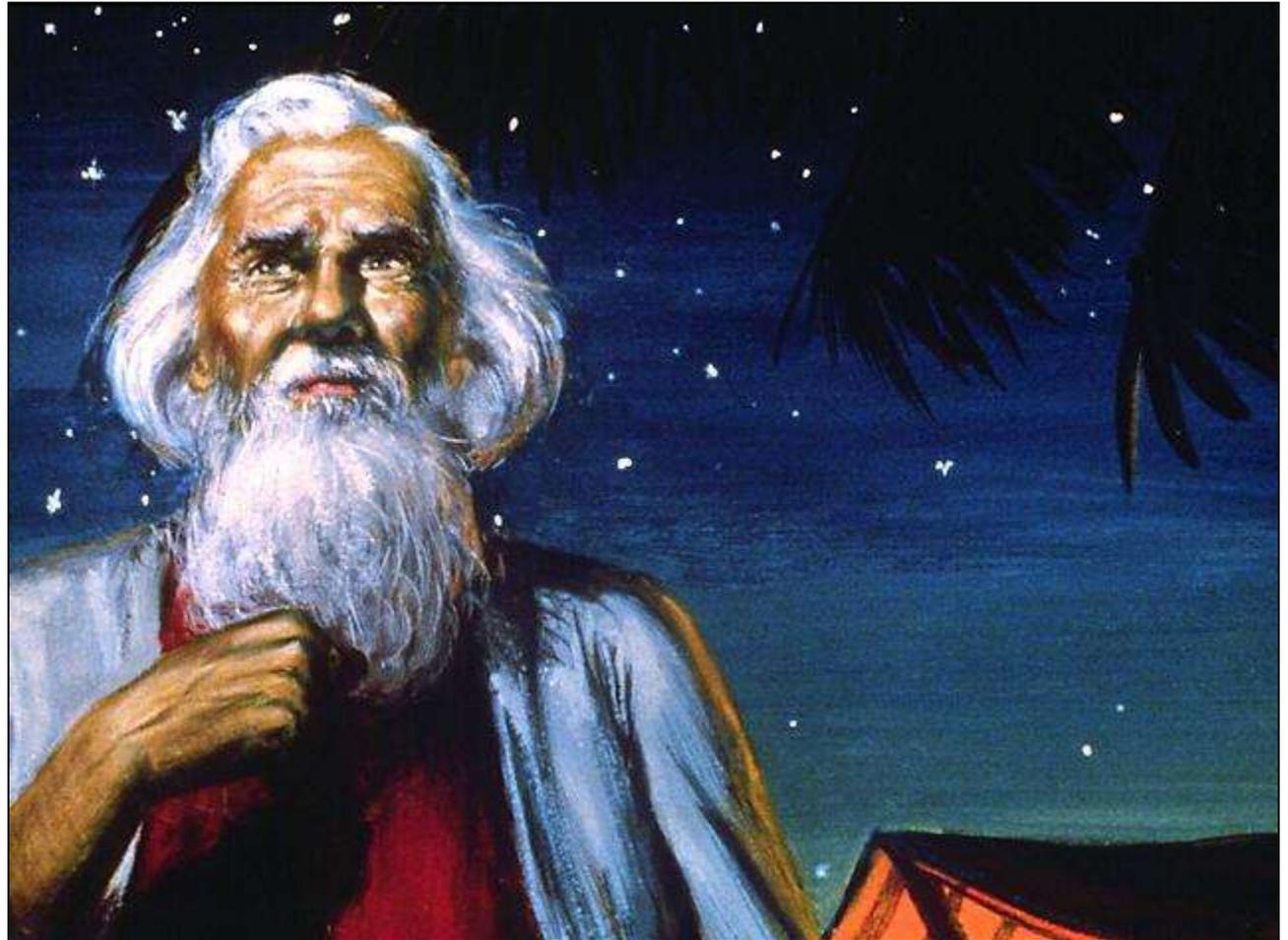


**God said to Abram**

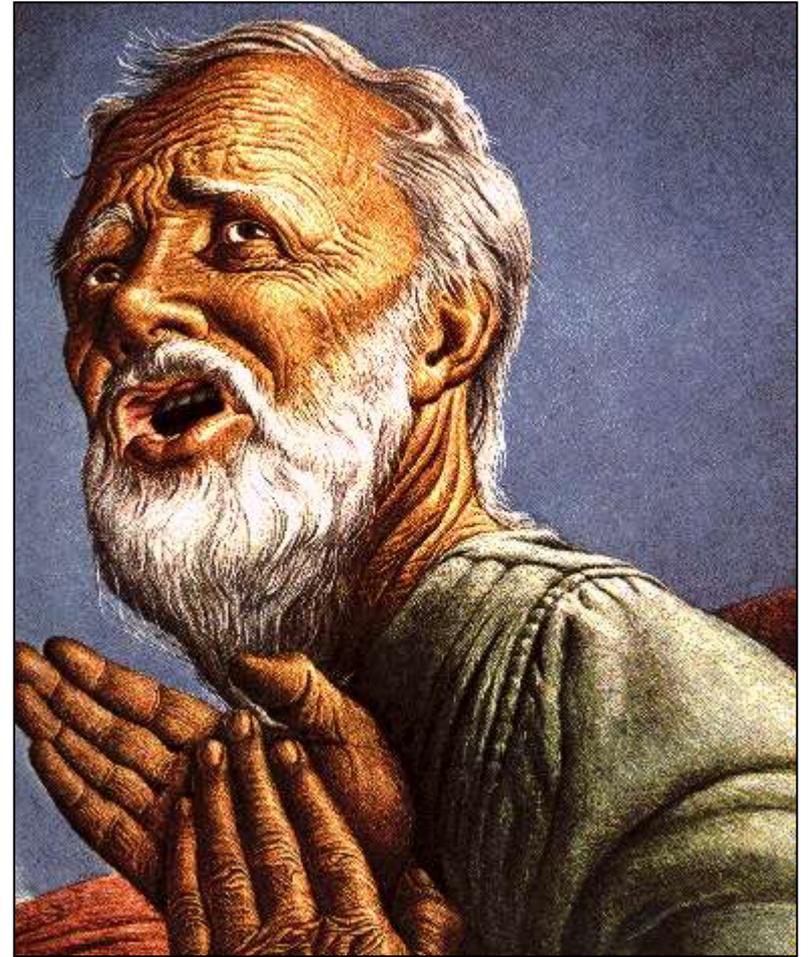
**Look up at the heavens and  
count the stars - so shall  
your offspring be.**

**Abram  
believed God,  
and it was  
credited  
to him as  
righteousness.**

**Genesis 15: 6**



Abram entered a  
relationship with God  
**by believing what  
God said,**  
**NOT**  
**by performing some  
deed or ritual.**



# King David says the same

David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works.. "Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him."

Romans 4: 6 - 8



To the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, **his faith is credited as righteousness.**



**Are you  
'in credit'  
?**

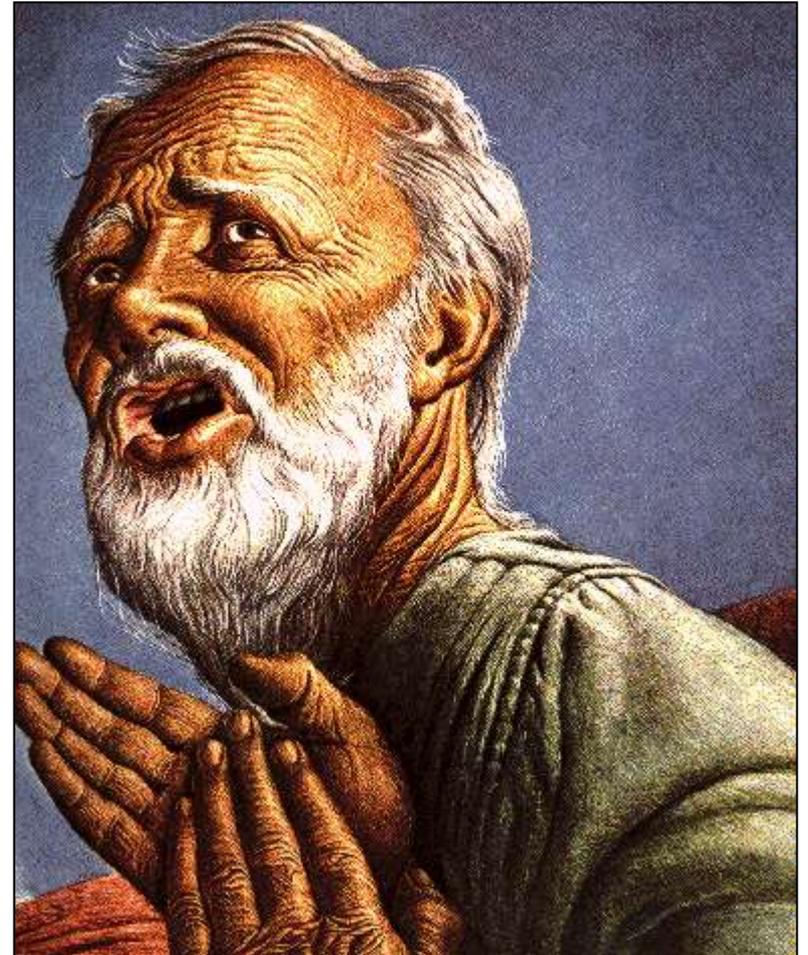
# Blessing for Both

Is this blessedness only for the “Jew”, or also for the “gentile”? We have been saying that Abraham`s faith was credited to him as righteousness. Under what circumstances was it credited? Was it after he was circumcised, or before? It was not after, but before!

Romans 4: 9 - 10



Abram became  
a believer  
13 years  
before  
he became  
a Jew  
and was  
given the name  
Abraham.



**Genesis 16: 16**  
&  
**Genesis 17: 24**

And he received the sign of circumcision,  
a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was  
still uncircumcised.

Romans 4: 11



# Abraham is the original role model for ALL believers

So then, he is the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them. And he is also the father of the circumcised who not only are circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

Romans 4: 11 - 12



It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who live by law are heirs, faith has no value and the promise is worthless, because law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression. Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham`s offspring--not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham.

Romans 4: 13 - 16

**It's by Faith  
not works  
so that  
everyone  
benefits.**



# Faith in Action

Abram believed  
God when it  
looked



# Faith in Action

His faith was

**REALISTIC**

he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead--since he was about a hundred years old--and that Sarah`s womb was also dead.



# Faith in Action

God, in whom he believed--the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were.

he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

His faith was  
**REASONABLE**



# Faith in Action

Abram believed  
God for 13 years  
before he saw  
the promise  
answered.

His faith was

**REAL**



**Faith** → **Faithfulness**

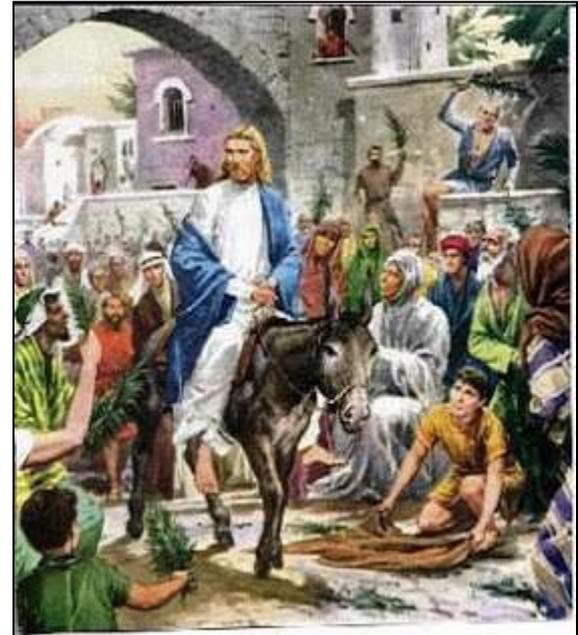
# Faith in Action

Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad."

"You are not yet fifty years old," the Jews said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!" "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"

John 8: 56-57

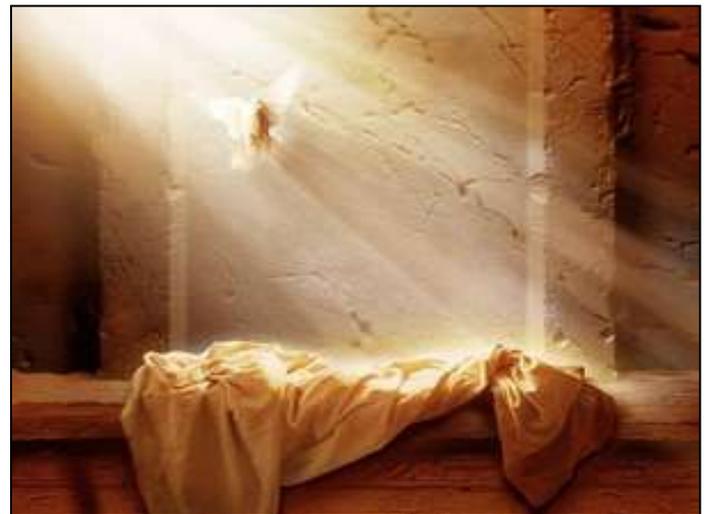
His faith was  
**in Jesus**



# It wasn't just for him

It says ... "it was credited to him as righteousness." The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone,

but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness--for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.

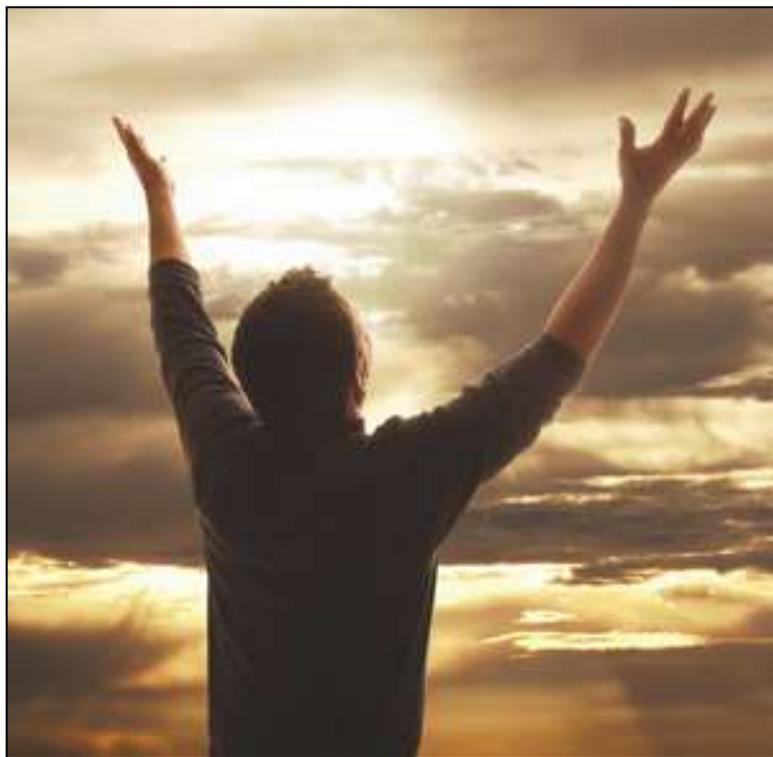


He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

Romans 4: 25



-for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.



**Are you  
'in credit'  
?**