

## ***Faith Is What Counts***

**Rom. 4:1-12**

### ***Faith is what justifies a person—not one's works. 1-8***

\*Paul poses a question about revered father Abraham's life and answers it with Gen. 15:6, proving his gospel fits with Abraham's experience (excludes value of works/boasting).

\*In 3:21-31 *faith/belief* and *righteousness/justification* were the key terms; here it's *faith* (7x) and *credit* (8x). What is the significance of *credit* (*account*)?

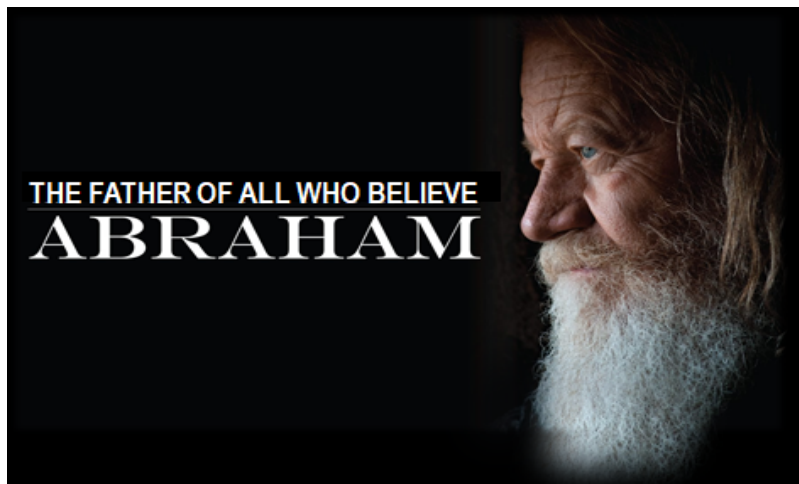
\*David's experience in Ps. 32 also involved God's practice of *crediting/accounting*. What was he trusting God for? And what was he, along with Abraham, not trusting in?

### ***Faith makes Abraham our father—not circumcision. 9-12***

\*Why was Paul compelled yet again to bring up the sign of circumcision and its lack of spiritual value (recall 2:25-29)?

\*Note Abraham's righteousness was declared in Gen. 15:6, but his circumcision was in 17:24, which suggests what?

\*What Jewish cherished notion about Abraham did Paul turn upside down? And what does it mean for people to follow in Abraham's "steps of the faith"?



Father Abraham had many sons