

# “Grace & Peace to You”

## A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ROMANS

Voice of China and Asia

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### ROMANS-Lesson 25 Part 1: “LAW VS GRACE / WORKS VS FAITH”

#### THE OPERATION OF GRACE AND FAITH ... FROM ROMANS 4

As Paul moves from confronting his “unseen opponents” by question and answer (*along with a sufficient sprinkling of sarcasm*), he proceeds into more of an explanation of why **Salvation / Righteousness** is a result of “**Faith**” and **NOT** of the “**Works**” of human effort.

This is one of the most well-presented teachings of the Apostle Paul regarding the doctrines of Grace and Faith. He establishes the necessity of **Grace** as the “**foundation for Faith**” and contrasts these principles with **Works and Law**. Although his main point of focus is salvation, he shows how these principles are necessary for receiving any of the promises that God has made.

#### ROMANS 4:4-5

4) *But in the case of one “who works” wages are NOT counted as a favor [as “grace”] ... but [as] a debt;*

- **Working** – from **Ergazomai** – *PresMidPrt* – cont. labor w/ cont. wage – paid as you work
- **NOT Counted / Reckoned** – *PresMidInd* – it **MUST** be accounted on the basis of his “**production**”
- **As Wages** – from **Misthos** – *dues paid for work done* – [ROM 6:23 “...wages of sin is death....”]
- **Favor** – not just “**favor**” but **Charis** – offered **w/o merit** for work...**w/o demerit** for lack of production
- **Debt** – what is legally owed - the implication is that **IF someone is working to gain righteousness they deserve it** – In other words... **GOD OWES** him –
  - **However:** **ROM 11:35 / JOB 41:11** - (*who has given first to God, that God must repay?*)
  - **THIS denies EVERY statement of “salvation by grace”** -

5) *But to him who does not work but [instead] believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his FAITH is accounted for righteousness*

- **The one “NOT working”** – this one is not doing “**something so as to deserve...**” –

## ROMANS-Lesson 25 Part 2: “LAW VS GRACE / WORKS VS FAITH”

- *but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly,*
- *Justifies – PresActPrt – WHEN they “believe” they ARE justified...*
  - They do not get what is “owed” –
  - “The ungodly...” - WHAT is “owed” is “Death” – “the wages of SIN is death...” (ROM 6:23)
  - These are pleading on their “faith” in the promise to “declare them righteous” *having been made by another* – It Is GOD who declares the “believer” RIGHTEOUS...

➤ *his FAITH is accounted for righteousness...*

- THIS faith is “written to the account” as “right-standing”
- It is a *Declaration* - Made by the ONE who is the “object of their faith” – GOD ALONE!
- THIS righteousness IS a “free gift”

COL 2:13-14 *And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, GOD made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,<sup>14</sup> by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.*

- *Made alive together... - Sunzoopoieo – to be suddenly made alive from death* – When JESUS was made alive in Hades, WE were made alive – a timeless miracle of eternal reality -
- *Having [already] forgiven... - To graciously forgive (meritless) – AorPart* – an action that precedes the action of “making us alive” – God FORGAVE our sins BEFORE Jesus was RAISED...
- *ALL our trespasses... - ALL* – even though we had NOT yet been born, knowing that we WOULD receive Jesus as Christ... GOD forgave ALL our trespasses – ALL were in the future... - it is NOT just our past sins which are forgiven but ALL... even in the future...
- *Canceling the record of debt... - AorPart - to eradicate – remove ALL record – NOT just CANCELLED... The RECORD itself is GONE...*
  - Ps 103:12 “...as far as the East is from the West *does He remove our sins from us*”
- *With its legal demands... - The LAW itself... - The Law CANNOT be applied as an “accusing document against us” ... our RECORD of violation is GONE!*
- *That stood against us... - The Law, as perfect as it was, was “contrary” to us... - Huperenantios – to be intensely opposed to / super-antagonistic... - The Law continually declared our failure...*

- **EPH 2:14-15** “For **He Himself is our peace**, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,<sup>15</sup> **having abolished in His flesh the enmity**, that is, the **law of commandments contained in ordinances...**”
- **Set aside...** - 2 words that mean to remove away... - it has NOT just been “set to the side” as IF it could be considered again ou at another time... **IT IS REMOVED!**
- **Nailing it to His Cross...** - **HERE’S WHY...** God **NAILED IT** to the Cross... - **AorPart** – Again this verb describes an action that **PRECEDES** Jesus being “made alive” – **BEFORE** the Resurrection the “**DEBT of SIN**” of all who **WOULD** believe in Jesus as Savior was **REMOVED IN THE CROSS...**

## **ROMANS 4:6–8**

6) **In this way David also tells of the blessedness of the one to whose credit God places righteousness, - apart from his actions.**

**Ps 32:1-2** Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.<sup>2</sup> Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

7) “Blessed,” *he says*, “are those whose **iniquities** [**Anomia** – **disregard** for the “law of God”]

➤ **have been forgiven** [**Aphiemi** - sent away; separated from you],

➤ and whose **sins have been covered** over [**Epikalupto** – concealed from view / review –

- by **God**; by **others**; by **us**...

8) Blessed is the man of whose **sin** [**Hamartia** – **miss** the target of **God’s demand**] the LORD **will NOT** [**impute**] **take account** [**Logizomai** – to record to his account].”

➤ **Will NOT** take account... - [**AorSubj w/nea** – never, **NOT ever** be able to arrive at this place]

➤ **NO SACRIFICE** to cover for “David’s” sin – There was no atoning sacrifice that could be offered for Pre-meditated Murder / Adultery

(**2 SAM 12:13**; **Ps. 24:10**; **Ps. 32:5**; **Ps. 51:4**)

➤ **David BELIEVED** God for “**forgiveness** and **restoration**” – beyond what the Law could provide... **and he WAS HEARD!**

**1 TIM 1:13-17** “...though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief,<sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.<sup>15</sup> The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.<sup>16</sup> But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> **To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.**