

Romans 4:9-12

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) 4:9 False world Religions tell people that they can be made right with God by performing certain works and rituals and can thereby earn their way to heaven through effort.
- 2) 4:9 Abraham believed that God would do what God said He would do (Genesis 15:6).
- 3) 4:10 The works (circumcision) Abraham did were not until long after he was called righteous by God. His acceptance by God was on the basis of his faith (Genesis 15:6; 17:10–11).
- 4) 4:10 God's acceptance of Abraham demonstrates the implication of this truth of salvation by faith because God would not treat Abraham one way and everyone else another.
- 5) 4:11 A person trusting in ritual or works invalidates the actions of Christ on the cross.
- 6) 4:11 Circumcision was a sign that stood as a witness that a person believed and therefore belonged to God. It was also a seal that demonstrated ownership.
- 7) 4:12 The people of the Old Testament were saved by believing God as they looked forward to a reality they could only see from a distance (John 8:56; Hebrews 11).
- 8) 4:12 True children of Abraham are not those who model physical ritual, but those who receive God's gift in faith (Philippians 3:3).
- 9) 4:11 As a sign, circumcision pointed beyond itself to that which it represented. As a seal, it authenticated the righteousness that Abraham possessed.
- 10) First and foremost, God's desire is to remove the sin that covers our hearts (Deuteronomy 30:6).

- 11) For the Jew, Passover was the collective symbol of God's deliverance; circumcision was the individual symbol of justification. For the Christian, communion is the collective symbol of relationship to Christ; baptism is the individual symbol.

HEBREW WORDS

Ôt (oth) a signal, as a flag, beacon, monument, evidence

TODAY'S SONGS

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"Good Good Father" words and music by Patt Barrett and Anthony Brown
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