

Genesis 12:2-3 (NIV)

I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and ALL peoples on earth will be blessed through you.

Genesis 15:5-6 (NIV)

He took him outside and said, Look up at the heavens and count the stars - if indeed you can count them. Then he said to him, So shall your offspring be. ⁶ Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Romans 4:16 (NLT)

So the promise is received by faith. It is given as a free gift. And we are all certain to receive it, whether or not we live according to the law of Moses, if we have faith like Abraham's. For Abraham is the father of all who believe.

Romans 4:17 (NLT)

That is what the Scriptures mean when God told him, “I have made you the father of many nations.” This happened because Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing.

**By FAITH and
By GRACE?**

Romans 4:16-25

CONTRASTS in Romans 4

BKC

- **FAITH -with- WORKS**
- **GRACE -with- RITUALS** and the **LAW**
- **LIFE -with- DEATH**

⁸ Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord will **NEVER** count against them.

⁹ Is this blessedness **ONLY** for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised...

By definition **the Creator brings INTO existence ALL that IS from that which NEVER was.** Anything less than that would be **adaptation** rather than creation.

NAC

**→ God's PROMISE is Based in
His GOODNESS**

**¹⁶ This is why the PROMISE is by
FAITH, SO THAT it may be
according to GRACE... (HCS)**

God's **promises** flow from His **NATURE**
as **ONE** who desires the very best for
those He created.

God's **promises** reflect the **GOODNESS**
of His character. NAC

Psalm 34:4-8 (NIV)

...⁸ **Taste** and **see** that

the **LORD** is **GOOD**;

blessed is the man who takes

REFUGE in Him.

⁴ I sought the LORD, and
He answered me; He delivered me
from ALL my FEARS.

⁵ Those who look to him are radiant;
their faces are **never covered with
shame.**

⁶ This poor man called, and **the LORD
heard him; he SAVED** him out of all
his troubles.

⁷ The angel of the **LORD encamps**
around those who **fear him**, and he
delivers them.

⁸ Taste and see that **the LORD is**
GOOD; blessed is the man
who takes **REFUGE** in Him.

Genesis 17:17 (NIV)

Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, "Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?"

The idea struck Abraham as somewhat ridiculous, but he **BELIEVED** it anyway.

Instead of wavering in his confidence in God, **Abraham's faith** was strengthened through the ordeal. NAC

Hebrews 11:11 (NIV)

By faith Abraham, even though he was past age - and Sarah herself was barren - was enabled to become a father because **he considered HIM faithful** who had made the **promise**.

Abraham's life was marked by mistakes, sins, and failures as well as by wisdom and goodness, **but he CONSISTENTLY trusted God.**

His **faith** was **strengthened** by the **obstacles** he faced, and his life was **an example of FAITH in action.** LAB

→ God IS our **HOPE**

¹⁸ Against **ALL hope**, Abraham
IN HOPE Believed...

God Communicated with Abraham...

Gen. 12 **Abraham was 75**

Gen. 13 God **Spoke** after Lot separated from Abraham

Gen. 15 God **Promised** Abraham a son

(Gen. 16 **Abraham was 86**)

Gen. 17 **Abraham was 99**

Gen. 21 **Abraham was 100**

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look, and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me.

We are credited as RIGHTEOUS
before God in the same manner as
Abraham: **BY FAITH**. HCSB

The fact that **He ROSE** tells us that
the work is **FINISHED**, the price has
been paid, and **God is infinitely**
SATISFIED with the **sin-aton**ing
work of the **Savior**. MacDonald

→ Delivered to DEATH - Raised to LIFE

²⁵ He was handed over to DIE because of OUR SINS, and He was raised to LIFE to make us right with God. (NLT)

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)

God made **Him** who had **NO** sin to
BE sin for us, SO THAT
IN Him we might **become** the
righteousness of God.

1 Peter 2:24 (NIV)

**He Himself bore our sins in His body
on the tree, SO THAT** we might
die to sins and live for righteousness;
by His wounds you have been healed.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NET)

So then, if anyone is **IN Christ**,

he IS a NEW creation;

what is old has passed away –

what is **NEW** has come.