

THE RELATION OF ABRAHAM'S CIRCUMCISION TO HIS SALVATION ROMANS 4:9-12

Introduction:

The intense Jewishness of Paul's argument regarding Abraham and David in 4:1-8, might lead some at this point to conclude that justification by faith was for the Jews only. Paul must now demonstrate that the man spoken of in 4:6 includes Gentiles. The question he raises in 4:9 is designed to launch his argument that justification by faith is universal in scope. Gentiles do indeed enjoy the same blessedness of justification by faith. Paul answers his own question in the following three ways.

I. THE TIMING OF ABRAHAM'S CIRCUMCISION (4:10)

- A. The Statement Of The Historical Account In Genesis
- B. The Dramatic Conclusion Of The Historical Account In Genesis

II. THE SIGN WHICH CONSISTED OF ABRAHAM'S CIRCUMCISION (4:11a)

- A. The Physical Identification Of That Spiritual Agreement Between God And Abraham
- B. The Genuine Authentication Of A Spiritual Reality

III. THE PURPOSE OF ABRAHAM'S CIRCUMCISION (4:11b-12)

- A. To Show Gentiles That They May Be Justified By Faith Alone
- B. To Show Jews That The Only Way They Could Make It Was By Faith