

Romans

SERMON SERIES

Solve for x:

$$3x + 7 = 22$$

$$3x + 7 - 7 = 22 - 7$$

$$3x = 15$$

$$3x / 3$$

x

$$= 15 / 3$$

$$= 5$$



**Check Your
Answer!**

Solve for x:

$$3x + 7 = 22$$

$$3x + 7 - 7 = 22 - 7$$

$$3x = 15$$

$$3x / 3 = 15 / 3$$

$$x = 5$$

Check your answer for x = 5:

$$3x + 7 = 22$$

$$3(5) + 7 = 22$$

$$15 + 7 = 22$$

$$22 = 22$$

YES!!!

Romans



THE GOOD NEWS
CHAPTERS 1-3

What is x?

The plan of God has always been to bring people back to himself through Jesus Christ.

Therefore, salvation is:

by faith alone,

through Jesus Christ alone,

by grace alone,

for God's glory alone

all according to God's plan expressed in scripture.

THE 5 SOLAS
OF THE REFORMATION

SOLA GRATIA
Grace Alone

SOLA FIDE
Faith Alone

SOLUS CHRISTUS
Christ Alone

SOLI DEO GLORIA
Glory of God Alone

SOLA SCRIPTURA
Scripture Alone



**Check Your
Answer!**

The BIG Questions for Chapter 4

Does the x=gospel* work with the Old Testament?

Last week:

1. Does x=gospel work with Abraham's and David's stories?
2. Does x=gospel work with circumcision?

This week:

3. Does x=gospel work with the law?
4. Does x=gospel work with God's promises in the O.T.?

**Paul “shows his work” that x=gospel* works
with Abraham’s story!!**

Genesis 15:1–6

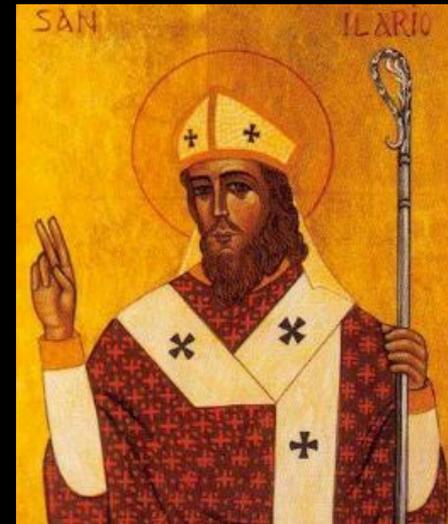
³ And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” ⁴ And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” ⁵ And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

⁶ And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD counted it to Abram as righteousness.

[Hilary of Poitiers (fourth century)], states in his commentary that “salvation is entirely by faith,” and emphasizes this theme repeatedly. Hence, Abraham, the thief on the cross, and the eleventh-hour workers in the vineyard (Matt. 20:1–16) are all justified by faith. Indeed, Hilary specifically declares that justification is by faith alone:

“Because faith alone justifies . . . tax collectors and prostitutes will be the first in the kingdom of heaven.”

~ Quoted from D. H. Williams,
“Justification by Faith: A Patristic Doctrine,”
p. 660.



Abram counted
as righteous



Circumcision
ritual practiced

Circumcision
ritual practiced



Abram counted
as righteous

Abram counted
as righteous



Circumcision
ritual practiced

Circumcision
ritual practiced



Abram counted
as righteous

**Paul “shows his work” that x=gospel* works
with Abraham’s story!!**

Genesis 17:3-5

³Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, ⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. ⁵No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations.”

Abram counted
as righteous



Circumcision
ritual practiced

Circumcision
ritual practiced



Romans



HOW DO WE
LIVE THEN?

CHAPTERS 4-8

Romans 4:13-25

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

Romans 4:13-25

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring – not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations” – in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

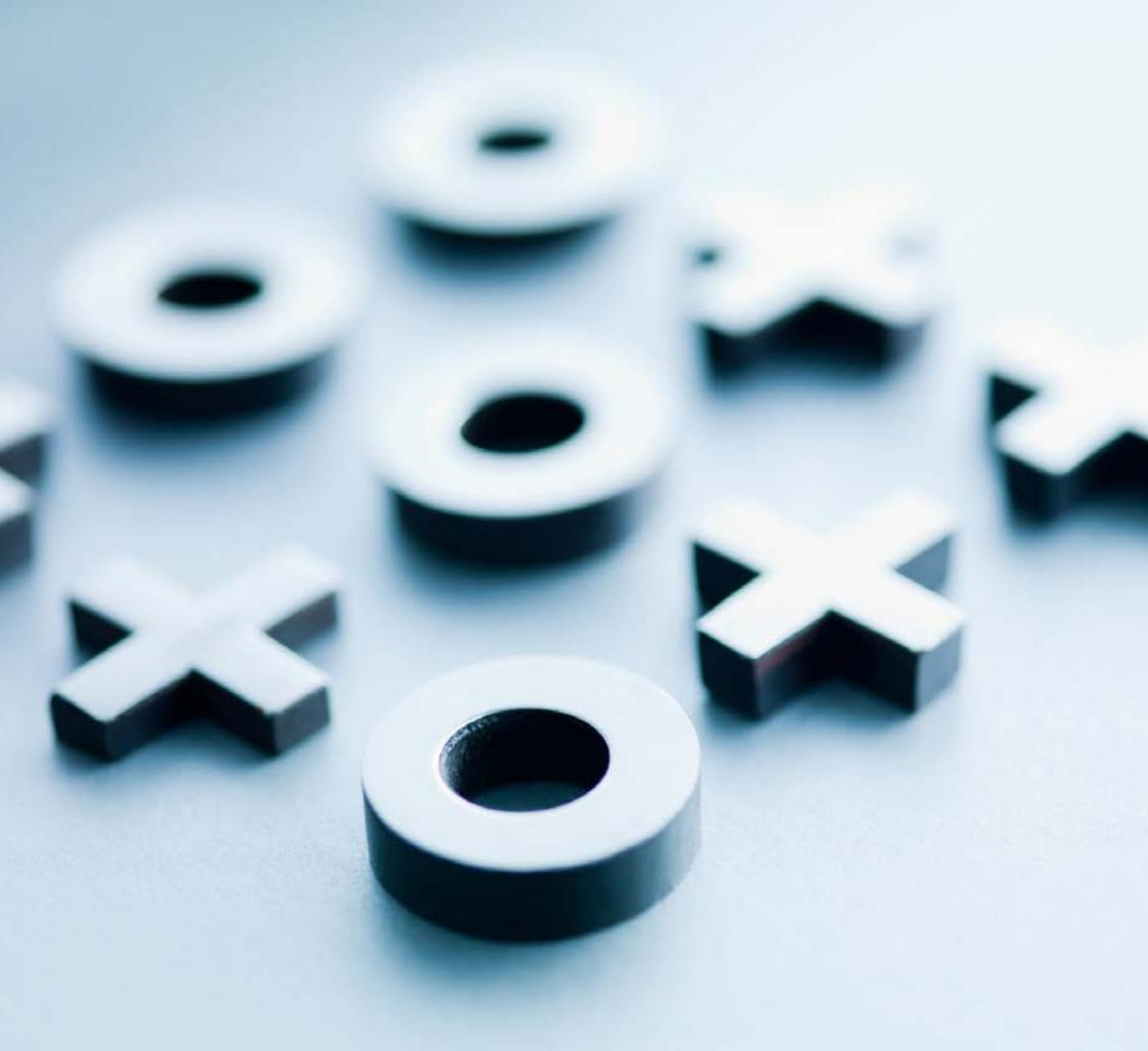
Romans 4:13-25

¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.”

¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.”

Romans 4:13-25

²³But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.



**Today's
Message:**

***Does x =the
gospel* work?***

How does this
answer fit with the
law and promise?

#1 - The promise was not earned through works

Romans 4:13-25

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.



Abraham and his descendants received God's promise of blessing through faith and not through the law (vv. 13 and 16a). Paul explains in verses 14–15 why the law could not have been the basis for this promise. If the inheritance of blessing that God promised to Abraham's descendants had come via the law, Paul explains, then “faith means nothing and the promise is worthless.”

He might mean that any mixture between the works that the law calls for and faith would evacuate the word “faith” of its basic meaning. No longer would it be a humble reception of God’s gracious gift; it would involve the sinner in a relationship in which God is under obligation (see vv. 4–5). On the other hand, Paul might mean that the addition of law would make it impossible for faith to reach its goal... If faith is to secure God’s promised blessing, it cannot have anything to do with the law, for the law demands works, and human beings are forever unable to produce sufficient works to gain God’s favor.

Douglas J. Moo, *Encountering the Book of Romans: A Theological Survey*, ed. Walter A. Elwell, Second Edition., *Encountering Biblical Studies* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014), 77–78.

#2 - The promise was for “many nations”

Romans 4:13-25

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring – not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations” – in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

#3 - The utter simplicity of Abraham's faith

Romans 4:13-25

¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be."

¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness."

Romans 4:18 (NIV)

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations...

#4 – Faith has ALWAYS been the way we are rescued

Romans 4:13-25

²³But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.



Abram called
(Genesis 12:1-3)

All Nations blessed
(Genesis 17:4)

The Law given to Moses
430 years later
(Exodus 20)

Abram pronounced
"righteous" by his
faith (Genesis 15:6)

Circumcision
(Genesis 17:10)



Genesis 12:1-3

¹The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. ²I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.



Genesis 15:6

Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.



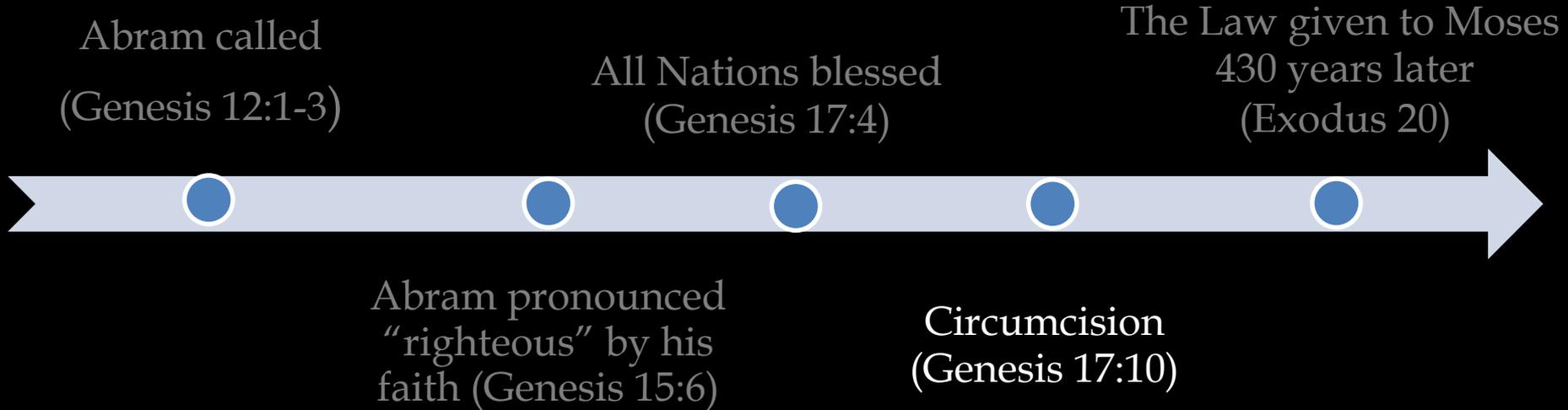
Genesis 17:4

⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations.”



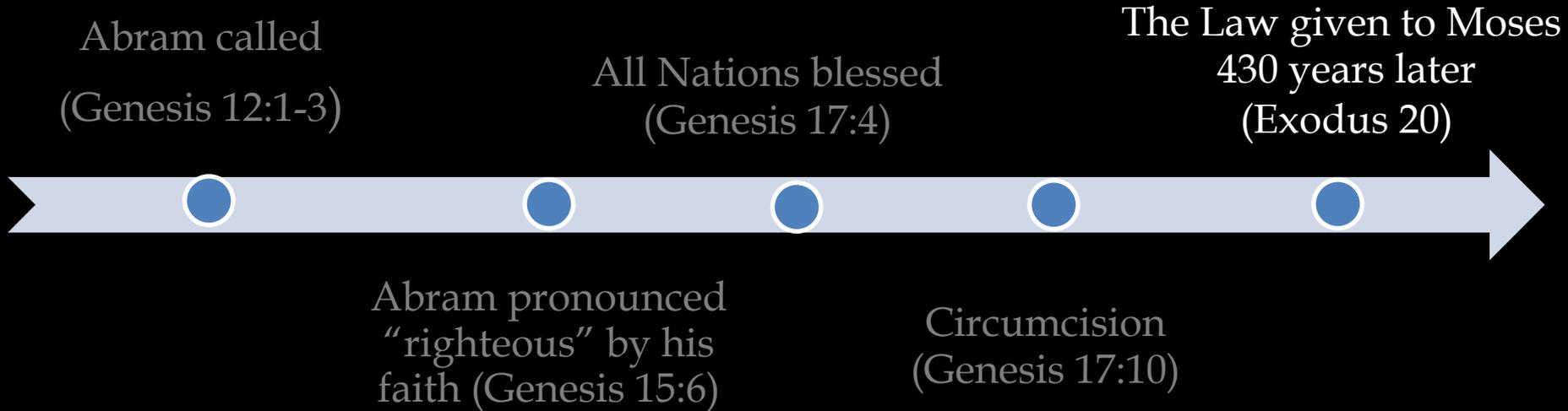
Genesis 17:11

¹¹You are to undergo circumcision, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you.



Exodus 20

¹And God spoke all these words: ²“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ³“You shall have no other gods before me...”



Galatians 3

¹You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. ²I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? ³Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh? ⁴Have you experienced so much in vain – if it really was in vain? ⁵So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard? ⁶So also Abraham “believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

Galatians 3

⁷Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. ⁸Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.” ⁹So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Galatians 3

¹⁰For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.” ¹¹Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because “the righteous will live by faith.” ¹²The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, it says, “The person who does these things will live by them.” ¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole.” ¹⁴He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Galatians 3

¹⁵Brothers and sisters, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. ¹⁶The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say “and to seeds,” meaning many people, but “and to your seed,” meaning one person, who is Christ. ¹⁷ What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise. ¹⁸ For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on the promise; but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise.

Galatians 3

¹⁹Why, then, was the law given at all? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was given through angels and entrusted to a mediator. ²⁰A mediator, however, implies more than one party; but God is one.

Galatians 3

²¹Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. ²²But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.

Romans



HOW DO WE
LIVE THEN?

CHAPTERS 4-8

What is x ?

What is x?

The plan of God has always been to bring people back to himself through Jesus Christ. Therefore, salvation is:

by faith alone,
through Jesus Christ alone,
by grace alone,
for God's glory alone

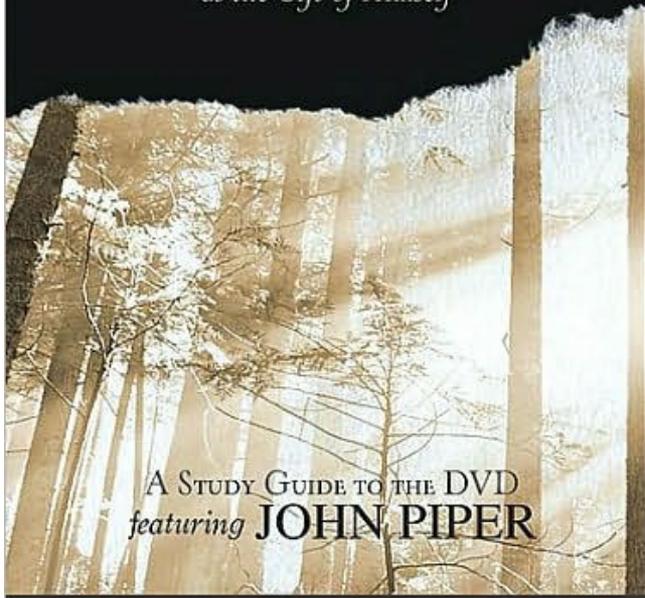
all according to God's plan expressed in scripture.

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