

**For Every Generation -
Salvation is Found in Believing God
Romans 4: 1-8**

August 18, 2024

Sin

Salvation

**Sancti-
fication**

Sovereignty

Service

So Long



A photograph showing the lower legs and feet of a person in dark trousers stepping out from the edge of a wooden boat into the ocean. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, and the sky is a pale, overcast blue. The text 'Step Out of Your Boat' is overlaid in a large, blue, sans-serif font on the right side of the image.

Step Out of
Your Boat

JESUS CHRIST I AM THAT I AM

One God Ministry and Apostleship

Get in the
Boat

Matthew 8:23

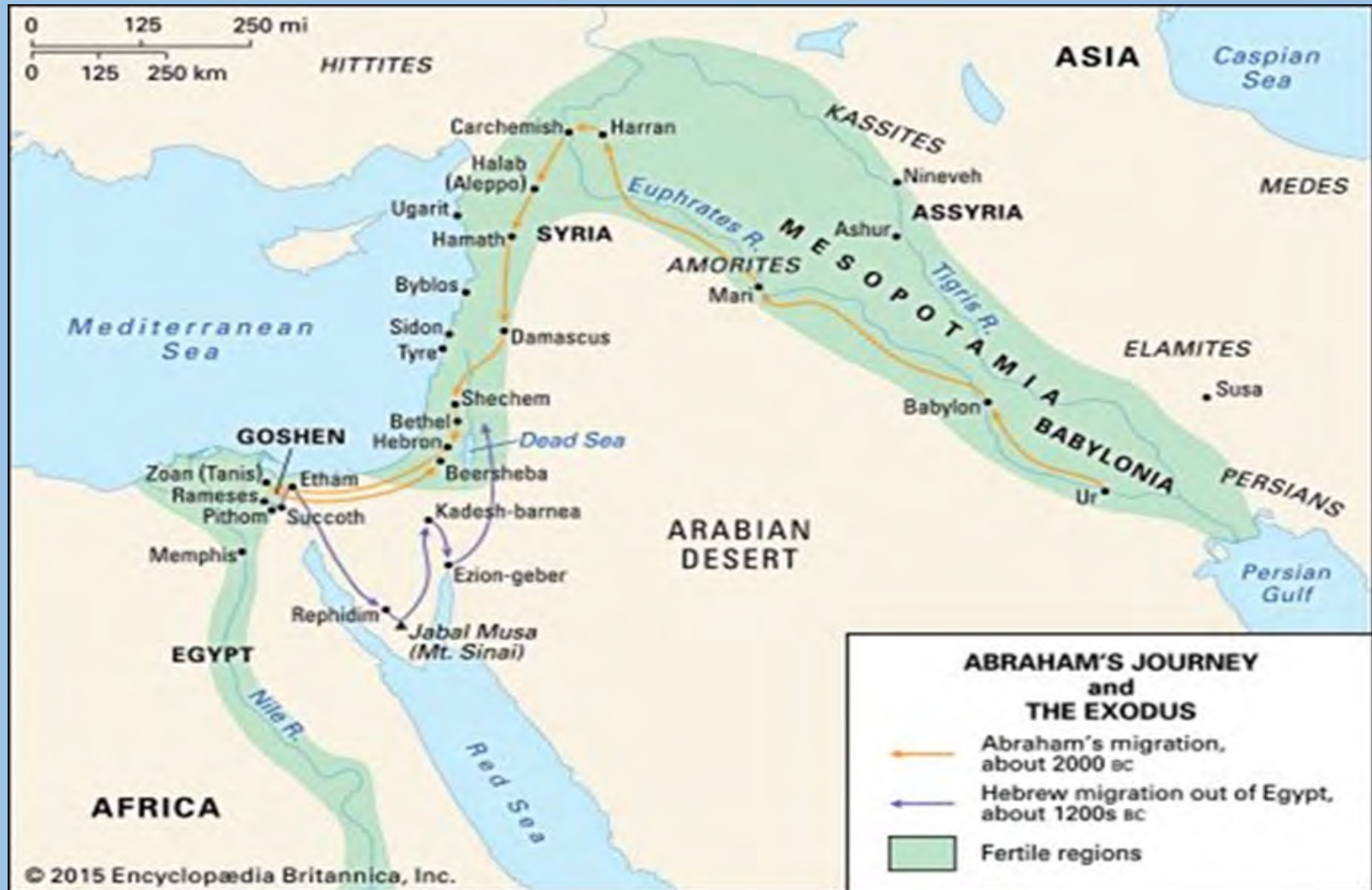
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Verse 1 - 3

Salvation has always been by faith –
i.e., Abraham's faith

Abraham was saved by faith, just like you!



Abraham was **not** justified by works, but by faith; faith in what God revealed to him (**verse 3**)

“Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”

Did Abraham know anything about Jesus, the cross, the resurrection, the Scriptures, the first Gospel?

NO!

What did Abraham know?

What God told him – Acts 7: 2-3

What must a person do to be saved?

This is the same in every age – believe God and take Him at His Word (Dr. Constable)

What must a person believe to be saved?

This has not been the same in every age because God has not revealed the same truth to every generation (Dr. Constable)

SETTLED: Salvation is by faith, believing – not by works!

Verse 4 - 5

The way of works vs The way of faith

Verse 4 is all about work and wages,
“You owe me, God” attitude – producing
arrogance, pride and hubris

Verse 5 is all about believing and faith, the unearned,
unmerited favor of God – producing humility

The System of Works	The Way of Faith
The person who works (v.4)	The person who does not work (v.5)
The religious person (v.4) who is self-righteous	The believing person (v.5) who is ungodly apart from Christ
DEBT -- what God owes me	GRACE -- what God gives me
Wages -- what I've earned	Free gift -- what I do not deserve
Boasting (v.2) -- "Look what I have done to earn my salvation and win God's favor!"	Thanksgiving -- "Oh to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!"

Satan would like you to believe in “*dualism*” = equal good and equal bad

Believing there is a battle between God and Satan as equal competitors is *WRONG!!*

Dualism of Good and Evil



God *is* good

Satan *is* evil

Verse 6 - 8

How does God impute righteousness?

Faith, not works!

Abraham was pre-Mosaic Law, yet he was saved by grace, faith, *not works!*

David was post-Mosaic Law, yet was saved by grace, faith, *not works!*

David quotes **Psalm 32: 1-2**, written after his affair with Bathsheba and his murder of Uriah, her husband

David was a guilty adulterer and murderer – David realizes what God’s grace means

You can almost feel the passion and relief in David’s words - ***“Blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works.”*** (verse 6)

There are 2 things going on here that we must appreciate:

It is one thing to have God's righteousness credited to us; **God's grace** (*unmerited favor*)

It is another thing to have our sin **not** credited to us; **God's mercy** (*not getting what we deserve*)

Both are huge, both are needed, both are abundantly appreciated!

Another interesting thought:

God **does** keep a record of our works, so we can be rewarded when Jesus comes for us

God **does not** keep a record of our sins – ***that is great news!***

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

God has graced us and mercied us over and over in our lives!

I *must* be one who gives grace and mercy to those who have wronged and mistreated me

When we do the impossible, *forgive those who have hurt us and give them grace and mercy, we are walking in concert with our Savior, as a grace and mercy giver!*

We are made in the image of God; *we are to look and act like our God!*

Being in the imago Dei, *the image of God, is a huge deal!*

This shapes everything that I say and do, *I am an image bearer of God to a fallen world!*

CONSEQUENCES OF BEING MADE IN IMAGE OF GOD

1. The image of God is affirmed for all persons—male and female alike (Gen. 1:27), and, by extension, for every ethnicity (cf. Acts 17:26).
2. While distinct genders, both male and female are equal as persons and equal in value.
3. Even after the fall (see Genesis 3), all people still possess the image and likeness of God. This is affirmed in Genesis 5:1–3 for all the offspring of Adam and Eve.

Remember:

1. The image of God as a phrase is applied only to humans. therefore, humanity is to be distinguished from the rest of earthly creation.
2. Humanity is, in some way, like God. the copy is like the original creator in some way.

Some view the image of God as attributes humanity has that are like God:

Creative, communicative, morally responsible, intelligent, relational, spiritual, and free

The image of God may imply more than simply attributes, it may imply status

**Our status was to rule and to govern the earth –
Genesis 1: 26b**

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SAY MANKIND IS CREATED IN THE IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF GOD?

THE RULERSHIP VIEW

1. Because man is made in the image of God, he is charged and enabled to “rule” and “subdue” the earth on God’s behalf (Gen. 1:26 and 28).
2. The Hebrew term for “rule,” used twice in Genesis 1:26–28, is “radah” and means “have dominion,” or “rule.”
3. Man is God’s image bearer who functions as a mediator-king on earth. God tasks mankind to manage the world as his representatives.

Today, fallen humanity still bears the image of God, tainted for sure – **James 3: 9**

When God saves an individual, He begins to restore the original image of God – **Ephesians 4: 24**

You must know that this earth age is ending; Messiah's kingdom is on the near horizon

In Messiah's kingdom, you will be taken back to Genesis, so to speak

You will then be in the image of God, the image of Messiah, glorified and perfect!

You will be given ruling authority, dominion that was relinquished at the fall

**Our future is bright and exciting –
the Messianic Kingdom awaits you!**

Are you ready for the ride of your life?
GET READY!!

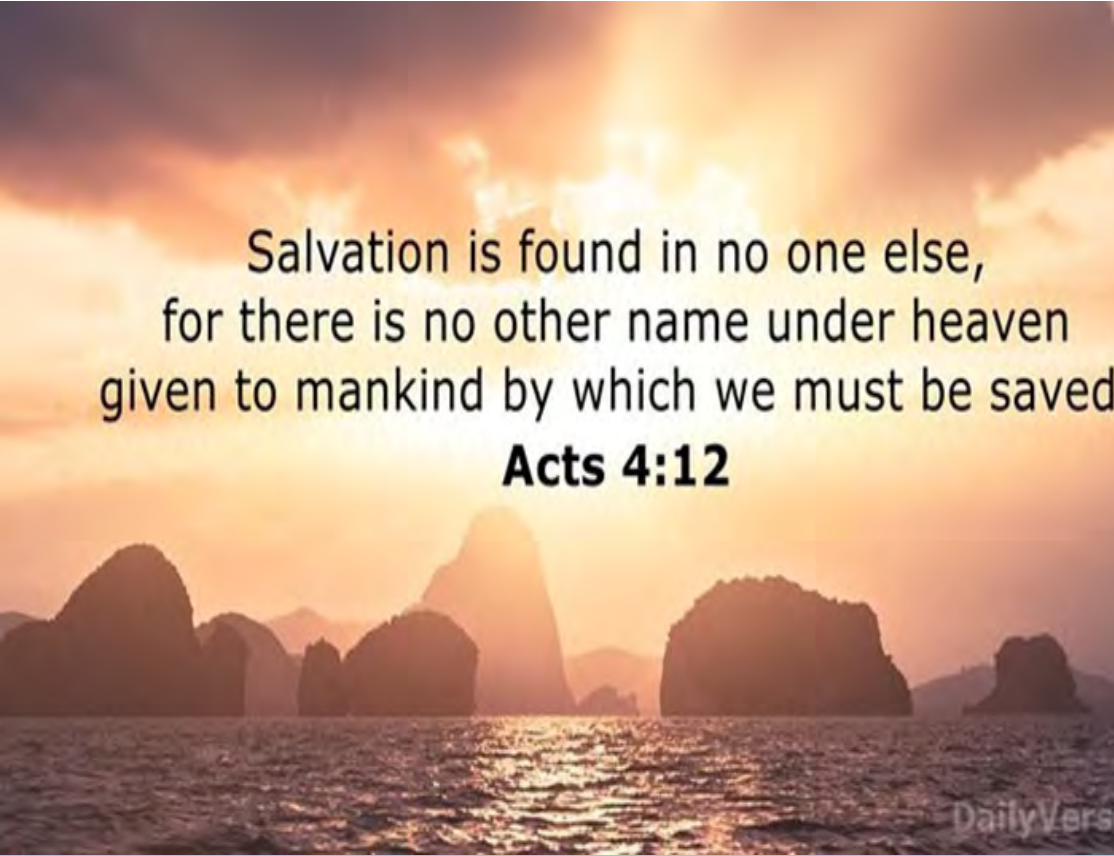
We can almost hear the
FOOTSTEPS OF THE MESSIAH!

HE IS COMING, CHURCH!
WATCH AND BE READY!!!



*"Watch therefore, for you
know neither the day nor
the hour in which the
Son of Man is coming."*

Matthew 25:13



Salvation is found in no one else,
for there is no other name under heaven
given to mankind by which we must be saved

Acts 4:12

DailyVers



THANK YOU JESUS

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