

Romans 4:16-25 (GNV)

God's Righteousness depends upon faith, in order that God's promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all of Abraham's descendants: not only to those who obey the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as 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. Hoping against hope, Abraham exercised faith (i.e., "faithed") that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what God had said: "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what God had promised. Therefore Abraham's faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for Abraham's sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who exercise faith (i.e., "faith") in the One who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.