



PART 4: FATHER ABRAHAM

Reading Romans is like the experience of a man groping in a dark church tower who reaches out to grab whatever he can – and grasps the rope that rings the bell that wakes up the entire community.

~ Karl Barth

These verses (Romans 3:21-26) are the chief point, and the very central place of the Epistle, and of the whole Bible.

~ Martin Luther

Romans 3:21-26 may be possibly the most important single paragraph ever written.

~ Leon Morris

God acts in Christ to put people in right relationship with himself. But that act cannot finally be accomplished without human response. People must believe in Christ to experience for themselves God's righteousness.

~ Douglas J. Moo

There can be no gospel unless there is such a thing as the righteousness of God for the ungodly.

~ James Denney

The problem is not so much that humans sin, as that humans are incapable of not sinning. Christ is necessary for Jew as well as Gentile because only he can break sin's power.

~ Craig C. Hill

God, because in his mercy he willed to forgive sinful men, and being truly merciful, willed to forgive them righteously, that is, without in any way condoning their sin, purposed to direct against his own very Self in the person of his Son the full weight of that righteous wrath which they deserved.

~ Charles Cranfield

Justification is the heart of the gospel and unique to Christianity. No other system, ideology or religion proclaims a free forgiveness and a new life to those who have done nothing to deserve it but a lot to deserve judgement instead.

~ John Stott

All other systems teach some form of self-salvation through good works of religion, righteousness or philanthropy. Christianity, by contrast, is not in its essence a religion at all; it is a gospel, the gospel, good news that God's grace has turned away his wrath.

~ John Stott

In Jesus the Messiah, God has been true both to the covenant with Abraham and to the demands of justice. As a result, there is now a Jew-plus-Gentile people of God, the true children of Abraham, marked out by faith rather than works of Torah.

~ N. T. Wright

I am not ashamed of the gospel.

~ The Apostle Paul