

Why God Demands Faith?

Romans 4:16

Introduction: God has never changed His M.O. Never revised His plans. God doesn't have an alternate plan. Song: "God leads His dear children along " "Some through the water, some through the flood, some through the fire, but all through the blood.

By Grace through Faith - Faith accepts what grace makes.

Satan's primary target is way of salvation - to confuse.

Vv. 1-17 - Negative proof saved through faith

V. 18 f. - Positive

V. 16 - is key to chapter - it is of faith.

I. THAT IT MIGHT BE OF GRACE

Grace and works are mutually exclusive - like oil and water. Grace
Grace - unmerited favor.

1. Eliminates boasting - Ill. Vs. 4, 5 - God will not share His glory with another. No strutters in heaven.

(1) In works

(2) In worship (a sign, not to secure)

Ill. of Aurora, Colorado, chairman of deacons.

2. Exalts God - v. 20. Whole purpose of salvation is to glorify God - not man - what man has achieved. The
declared to glory of God.

II. THAT IT MIGHT BE GLOBAL - to all

1. In its availability --- if just to good - John Newton
bad - Wesley
rich - John Jasper
poor - F. B. Meyer
ignorant - Spurgeon
educated - Moody
white - Geo. Wash. Carver
black - Billy Graham
Gentile - Paul
Jew - Ron Dunn, and you.

2. In its accessibility -- TO ALL -- Genius of Christianity -
Universal and -- anyone can believe -
under any condition

III. THAT IT MIGHT BE GUARANTEED

Sure, firm, steadfast.

Certain - 4 times: "The just shall live by faith". Alternate

1. Immediate - Salvation guaranteed by faith, verse 5 - in God
 - (1) Our sin is reckoned to Christ
 - (2) Christ's righteousness is reckoned to us.

2. Ultimate salvation depends not on us but guaranteed by grace through faith - nothing but omnipotent power could keep me. = Poem.