

A Key Question That Settles Everything

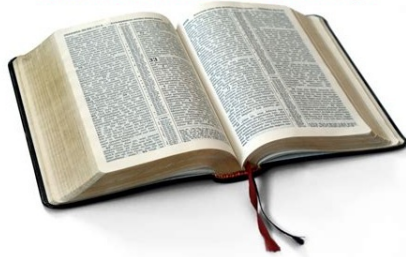
(Romans 4:1-8)

Paul argued masterfully in the book of Romans. Years ago, the book of Romans was used in certain law schools to teach students how to present a strong case. In chapter 4 Paul made the argument that Abraham was justified, not by works, but by faith. To prove this he asked the question, “**What saith the Scriptures?**” (Rom. 4:5) He then quoted from Genesis 15:6 which clearly showed that Abraham was justified by faith: “Abraham **believed God** and **it was counted unto him for righteousness.**” How do we know Abraham was justified by faith? **The Bible** (in this case the Old Testament) **says so!**

It does not matter what pastors, priests or popes say about spiritual matters. Nor does it matter what our teachers say, although we should certainly respect those who minister God’s Word to us. It does not matter what Augustine, Luther or Calvin have said. It does not matter what we read in books, hear on podcasts or what information we find online. The only thing that really matters is, “**What saith the Scriptures?**” or “**What does the Bible say?**” We can appeal to no higher authority, and we must never appeal to any lesser authority. Other men can be helpful, but only to the extent that they help us understand what God has said. God has so much to say about every important subject that relates to the believer’s faith and practice, and He is the One that we are to get our answers from! Men can be well meaning, but they can mislead us. There is safety only in this: *What do the Scriptures say?*

This key question must be asked about any topic or doctrine or practice. What about homosexuality? What about a believer marrying an unbeliever? What about women preachers? Is the believer under the law of Moses as a rule of life? Did Christ die for all men or only for the elect? Etc. We always must ask, “**What saith the Scriptures?**” Our appeal must ever be to God’s infallible Word.

What does the Bible say?



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