

— WEEKLY —
**BIBLE
STUDY**
NOTES

Reflection and Discussion

Read through the complete passage for this study, [Romans 3:21–4:25](#). Then review the listed passages and write your own notes on the following questions. (For further background, see the ESV Study Bible, pages 2163–2165, available online at www.esvbible.org.)

1. God's Righteousness in the Death of Jesus ([Rom. 3:21–26](#))

The law of God is a great equalizer. The ground is level at the foot of the cross, because, since all have sinned and fallen short of God's glory ([Rom. 3:23](#)), all need Jesus. How is God's righteousness manifested in Jesus Christ ([Rom. 3:21–22](#))?

1b. How can God be called just if he passes over sins ([Rom. 3:25–26](#))?

2. Righteousness by Faith for Jews and Gentiles ([Rom. 3:27–31](#))

What is it about the nature of faith that precludes boasting ([Rom. 3:27](#))?

2b. Paul is clear that salvation comes to us as a gift received by faith, not by works, but at the same time that God's commandments are not abolished. How does justification by faith uphold the law?

3. Abraham as the Father of Jews and Gentiles ([Rom. 4:1–25](#))

In [Romans 4:9–11](#), what does Paul point out about the order of Abraham's faith and his circumcision? Why is this significant for our lives today?

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3b. Reflect on [Romans 4:19](#). What is the connection between Abraham’s seeing his own aged body and Sarah’s barrenness, and his realization that he could not find strength through the law?

Read through the following three sections on Gospel Glimpses, Whole-Bible Connections, and Theological Soundings. Then take time to reflect on the Personal Implications these sections have for your walk with the Lord.