

“A Promise that Comes through Faith”

Romans 4:13-16

October 1st, 2023 – Pastor Nick Neves

Our sovereign God ordains the _____ as well as the _____. This is certainly true when it comes to His covenant promises.

When God enters into covenant with Abraham, he promises to him a great many things, three of which Paul will make note of in the section to come:

1. A vast number of _____
2. A _____ to possess and enjoy
3. All the peoples of the earth would be _____ through him

Paul wants us to first consider the _____ of the promise:

Yahweh promised that He would make Abraham the ‘Heir of the world’.

Paul wants us to consider to _____ the promise is given:

Because Abraham is the father of both the ___ and the _____, both will be the rightful heirs to the blessings that God has promised to Abraham and His people. (See 4:11-12)

God can give these promises to Abraham and his descendants, because the earth and everything in it are God’s to give! (Psalm 24:1-2, Romans 11:2, Matthew 28:18)

How should this impact our approach to evangelism?

Paul wants us to consider how such a weighty and vast promise came to Abraham:

Before he answers that question in the positive, he will definitively answer it in the negative:

The promise to Abraham did NOT come through the _____.

It is good that the promise does not come through the law, for a number of reasons, described throughout the book of Romans:

1. We would never _____ it, because on our own we cannot help but fail to keep the law.
2. Active acquisition of the inheritance rather than passive acquisition of the inheritance would unavoidably lead to _____.
3. Inheritance by law would change the very nature of the inheritance... it would no longer be a gift of grace, and the fact that it is a gift of grace is fundamental to the VALUE of the gift.

If the law doesn’t bring about the promise, what DOES it bring about? (wrath)

Sin = _____

Transgression = rebellion in the full _____ of the law

The promise does not come through the law; it comes through faith of the same sort that Abraham displayed.
